



Ensure security for Indian diplomats, says MEA
In the name of freedom of expression, space should not be given to those advocating violence or legitimising terrorism, India said on Thursday in a message to Canada, Australia, the US and the UK where pro-Khalistan groups put up posters threatening senior Indian diplomats. The security of diplomats and Indian missions are of utmost priority to the government, MEA spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said.



Department of Information
and Public Relations

**Walking
the Talk...**



Progressive Development

Our Government's Motto...

We raised the bar high with the new '**Karnataka Model of Governance**'. We are all set to raise it even higher with the '**Model Karnataka Budget**'.



Free bus travel for women.
Implemented.



Gruha Jyothi

200 units of free electricity.
Implemented.

Anna Bhagya

10 kg of free food grains to the poor. Implemented.
(Rs. 170 per head in lieu of 5 Kg rice)

Gruha Lakshmi

Rs.2000/- for the woman head of the house. Implementation in progress.

Yuva Nidhi

Unemployment benefit of up to Rs.3000/-. Implementation in progress.

karnataka information



KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice
Tender No : Re-e-Tender No 43/2023-24/ SE/PHC/ALP

Jal Jeevan Mission Kuttanad Drinking Water project - Phase II - Providing FHTCs in Kavalam Panchayath in Alappuzha District- Pipeline Work, EMD : Rs. 200000, Tender fee : Rs.13010, Last Date for submitting Tender : 27-07-2023 02:00-pm, Phone : 0477-2237954

Website : www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.etenders.kerala.gov.in

KWA-JB-GL-6-625-2023-24 Superintending Engineer, PH Circle, Alappuzha

UJVN LIMITED
H.O.: "UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, G.M.S. Road, Dehradun-248006
Telephones: 0135-2763808, Fax: 0135-2763508
CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866, Website: www.ujvn.com

Letter No: 614 Date: 05/07/2023

E-Tender Date Extension Notice No-02

Due to unavoidable reasons the dates of e-tender no 01/UJVNL/ DGM (CD-II)/ Lakhwar /2023-24 for "Engagement of Project Management Consultant for Lakhwar MPP (300 MW) on River Yamuna" Uttarakhnad are hereby extended as follows:-

Last Date for submission of bid document on website : 21.07.2023 up to 16:00 Hrs.

Last Date for submission of documents in Hard copy: 24.07.2023 up to 16:00 Hrs.

For fuller & further details, kindly visit e-procurement portal "https://uktenders.gov.in"

"AVOID WASTEFUL USE OF ELECTRICITY" DGM(CD-II),CD&H

BANGALORE UNIVERSITY
Office of the Registrar, Jnanabharathi, Bengaluru - 56

No: BU/E-Gov/Tenders-ADV-03/2023-24 Date: 04.07.2023

E-Tender Notification

Bangalore University invites bids for the following tenders through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal; Details of the tenders are available at KPPP platform <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in> Bids are to be submitted electronically at <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in> Bidders are requested to adhere to the time schedule prescribed in the tender.

Sl. No.	Description of the Tender
1	Supply of Gold Medals for the 58th Annual Convocation
2	Purchase of Digital Camera and Accessories for the department of Apparel Technology and Management
3	Supply of Blazers to the Directorate of Physical Education, Bangalore University, Bengaluru
4	Supply of Trackuits to the Directorate of Physical Education, Bangalore University
5	Providing Catering Services for Meetings and Functions of Bangalore University
6	Disposal of White Jelly, Book Cutting Jelly, wastage printing forms and Regrinding of P.S. Plates at University Printing Press

Registrar

Bank of Maharashtra
Zonal Office, Bengaluru - 2nd Floor, No.15, Police Station Road, Basavangudi, Bangalore - 560 004 | TELE: 080-4656 1236
e-mail: legal_ban@mahabank.co.in

Head Office: Lokmangal, 1501, Shivajinagar, Pune-5

POSSESSION NOTICE

For Immovable property [Appendix IV under the Act-Rule-8(1)] WHEREAS,

The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Bank of Maharashtra under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, and in exercise of the powers conferred under Sub-Section (12) of Section 13 read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rule, 2002, issued a Demand Notice dated 02.05.2023 calling upon the borrower, **Mr. N. Venkateswaran, Prop. of M/s. Sneha Construction and the borrower & guarantor, Mrs. N. Vijaya Padma and the guarantor, Sneha Narumanchi,** to repay amount aggregating **Rs.2,90,16,016.00 (Rupees Two Crore Ninety Lakh Sixteen Thousand Sixteen only)** plus unapplied interest thereon as mentioned in the demand notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice. The notice was sent through Regd. AD Post as well as hand delivery. The borrower as well as guarantor having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower as well as guarantor and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the properties described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under section 13 (4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on this 6th day of July of the year 2023. The borrower as well as guarantor in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charge of Bank of Maharashtra, **Kormangala Branch (formerly known as Corporate Finance Branch)** for an amount hereinabove mentioned.

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of Sub-Section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets. **The details of the properties mortgaged to the Bank and taken possession by the Bank are as follows:**

All that piece and parcel of residential land & building bearing property Site No.651 admeasuring area 2400 sq. ft. (East to West-12.19 mt. i.e. 40 ft. & North to South 18.29 mt. i.e. 60 ft.) and construction thereon admeasuring area 1316 sq. ft. each on Ground Floor and 1st Floor lying and situated at 7th Main, 11th Cross, MICO Layout, 2nd Stage, N.S. Palya, Municipal Ward No.65, Bangalore-560 076 and the property is butted and bounded as under- On or towards East : By Premises No.650. On or towards West : By Premises No.652. On or towards North : By Road. On or towards South : By Premises No.643.

Date: 06/07/2023
Place: Bangalore

Sd/- Chief Manager & Authorized Officer
Bank of Maharashtra, Bangalore Zone

CHAMUNDESHWARI ELECTRICITY SUPPLY CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)

Corporate Office, Procurement Section, CESC, Mysuru-570017.
Telephone No: 9448994705

Website: www.cescmysore.org, E-mail ID: gmpurc@cescmysore.org,
Company Identity Number(CIN): U40109KA2004SGC035177

CESC/GM(P)/DGM(P)/AGM(P-2)/2023-24/5884 DATE : 03.07.2023

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (E-PROCUREMENT PORTAL ONLY)

CESC, Mysore invites Short Term Tenders from eligible bidders for Supply of Uniforms clothes as mentioned below:

Sl No	Particulars	Enquiry No./Date
1	Supply of Uniform clothes to CESC	C2-5479/28-06-2023

The details regarding participation in the tender can be obtained through e-procurement portal <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in> or after 10.07.2023 For clarification contact help desk 080-46010000/22631200/68948777 or e-mail address support@eprocelpdesk.com.

For Electricity related complaints Call: 1912
Sd/- General Manager (Procurement), CESC, Mysuru.

KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK LIMITED
REGISTERED OFFICE: 27, BKC C27, G-Block, Bandra Kurla Complex, (Bandra E), Mumbai-400051.
Branch Office: No.22, ING House, M G Road, Bangalore-560001.

DEMAND NOTICE

Under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation And Reconstruction of Financial Assets And Enforcement Of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with Rule 3 (1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. The undersigned is the Authorised Officer of **Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd. (KMBL)** under Securitisation And Reconstruction Of Financial Assets And Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (the said Act). In exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) of the said Act, calling upon the following Borrower(s) (the "said Borrower(s)"), to repay the amounts mentioned in the respective Demand Notice(s) issued to them that are also given below. In connection with above, (Notice is hereby given, once again, to the said Borrower(s) to pay to KMBL, within 60 days from the publication of this Notice, the amounts indicated herein below, together with further interest as detailed in the said Demand Notice(s), from the date(s) mentioned below till the date of payment and/or redemption, payable under the loan agreement read with other documents/writings, if any, executed by the said Borrower(s). As security for due repayment of the loan, the following assets have been mortgaged to KMBL by the said Borrower(s) respectively.

Name of the Borrower(s) Guarantor(s)	NPA Date, Demand Notice Date and Amount	Description of secured asset (immovable property)
Loan Account No.BBA-WC LOAN ACCOUNT No. 0427CL0100000004 (CRN 56860711).	NPA Date: 08-06-23 Demand Notice Date: 27-06-2023 Rs.7,68,542.18 Ps (Rupees Seven lakh Sixty Eight Thousand Five Hundred Forty Two and Paise Eighteen Only)	Mortgage over following properties: All the Piece and Parcel of the immovable property bearing No.946, formed by BDA, Bangalore in Banashankari III Stage, III Phase, III Block Extension, Present Corporation No.946 Measuring East to West: 7.60 Mtrs & North to South: 9.20 Mtrs and Bounded on: East by: No.945, West by: No.947, North by: Road (North East), South by: No.943.

If the said Borrowers shall fail to make payment to KMBL as aforesaid, KMBL shall proceed against the above secured assets under Section 13(4) of the Act and the applicable Rules, entirely at the risks of the said Borrowers as to the costs and consequences. The said Borrowers are prohibited under the Act from transferring the aforesaid assets, whether by way of sale, lease or otherwise without the prior written consent of KMBL. Any person who contravenes or abets contravention of the provisions of the said Act or Rules made there under, shall be liable for imprisonment and/or penalty as provided under the Act.

Date: 07.07.2023, Place: Bangalore
Sd/- Authorized Officer, For Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd.

ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ-ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ
ಸರ್ ಸಿದ್ದಪ್ಪ ಕಂಬಳಿ ರಸ್ತೆ ದೂರವಾಣಿ : 2213898,
2213888 website : www.hdmc.gov.in

ಘನತ್ಯಾಜ್ಯ ವಸ್ತು ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ.

ನಂ:ಬೆ.ಡಿ.ಎಮ್.ಸಿ/74/05/2023-24/ ಡಿನಾಂಕ : 04-07-2023

ದರವಾರು ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ-ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ಕೀಂದ್ರ ನಗರಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯು ನಡೆಸುವ ಸ್ವಲ್ಪ ಸರ್ವೇಕ್ಷಣದೃಶ್ಯ ಪ್ರವರ್ಧಕ ಛಾತ್ರವಹಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದು, ಅದರಂತೆ ಈ ಸಾಲಿನಲ್ಲಿಯೂ ಸಹ ಛಾತ್ರವಹಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದು, ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ಘನತ್ಯಾಜ್ಯ ನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ವಿಭಾಗದೊಂದಿಗೆ MoHUA Guidelines ಅನುಸಾರ ಸ್ವಲ್ಪ-ಸರ್ವೇಕ್ಷಣ, ಘನತ್ಯಾಜ್ಯ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ, ಸಫಾಯಿಮಿತ್ರ ಸುರಕ್ಷಾ ಚಾಲಂಜಿ ಒಳಗೊಂಡಂತೆ, ಅಗತ್ಯ ದಾಖಲಾತಿಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ, ಅಗತ್ಯವಿರುವ ಸಲಹೆ / ಮೂಲ ಅಧ್ಯಯನ ನಡೆಸಲು ಪಾಲಿಕೆಗೆ ಸಲಹೆಗಾರರಾಗಿ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡಲು ಆಸಕ್ತಿಯುಳ್ಳ ನರಿತ ಖಜೇನ್ರಿ/ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಂದ ದರವಾರು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಿದ್ದು ಆಸಕ್ತಿಯುಳ್ಳವರು ದಿನಾಂಕ : 10/07/23 ರ ಸಂಜೆ 5:00ರ ಒಳಗಾಗಿ ನಮ್ಮ ಕಛೇರಿ ವಿಳಾಸ: ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು ಸಾಂಸ್ಥಿಕ ಭವನ 2ನೇ ಮಹಡಿ, ಸ್ನೂ ಕಾಲನಿ ಮಾರ್ಕೆಟ್, ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ ಇಲ್ಲಿಗೆ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಮಂಡಿಸಿ : hdmcswn2021@gmail.com ಇಲ್ಲಿಗೆ ಮುಖ್ಯಸ್ಥ ಲೇಕೋಟಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ದರವಾರು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಿದೆ.

ಸಹ - ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು(ಘನತ್ಯಾಜ್ಯ)
ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ-ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ.

ವಾಸಾಸಂ/ಧಾ/ಕೆಎಸಿಎಂಎ/77/2023-24 ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ

Bangalore Electricity Supply Company Limited
(Wholly owned by Govt. of Karnataka undertaking)
(CIN-U94010KA20025GC038438)

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through E-procurement portal)

BESCOM invites tenders through e-procurement portal against for the following enquiry Numbers. 1). CEE/CZ/SEE(O)/AEE-1/2023-24/GM-056, Dated: 05.07.2023 for Providing 218 Numbers of temporary Gangmen service to the C, O&M Sub-divisions of Davanagere Circle, BESCOM for a period of six months i.e. from the date of Contract Award through an agency. Approx Amount put to Tender: Rs. 2,48,76,314/- EMD: 3,73,145/- Contract Period: Six Months.

2). CEE/CZ/SEE(O)/AEE-1/2023-24/GM-057, Dated: 05.07.2023 for Providing 333 Numbers of temporary Gangmen service to the C, O&M Sub-divisions of Tumkur Circle, BESCOM for a period of six months i.e. from the date of Contract Award through an agency. Approx Amount put to Tender: Rs.3,76,58,712/- EMD: 5,64,881/- Contract Period: Six Months.

Bid document available in e-portal: 18.07.2023@11:00Hrs. Pre-bid meeting: 01.08.2023@11:00Hrs. Last date for submission of Queries: 08.08.2023 Upto 16:00 Hrs. Last date for submission of bid document: 21.08.2023 Upto 17:00Hrs. Date and time of opening technical bid: 23.08.2023@11:00Hrs.

The details regarding participation in the tender can be obtained through e-procurement portal from the website: kppusers@karnataka.gov.in on or after 18.07.2023. Aspiring bidders need to register on e-procurement portal. All the payments such as tender processing fee, EMD etc., shall be made through e-payment mode. Further any clarification contact helpdesk: 080-68948777 and 080-46010000 or E-mail: hphelpdesk.blr@reservices.com. Sd/- Chief Engineer(Electy.), O&M Zone, BESCOM, Chitradurga.

ಕನರಾ ಬೆಂಕ್ Canara Bank
(A Government Of India Undertaking)

POSSESSION NOTICE (Rule-8(1)) (For Immovable Property)

Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Canara Bank, **Rajajinagar 3rd Block Branch**, under Securitization And Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Act 54 of 2002) (hereinafter referred to as "the Act") and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued a Demand Notice dated 29.04.2023 calling upon the Borrowers/Guarantors/Mortgagors (1) Mr. Prabhulinga P.A. S/o Palakshappa.H. 21 D1 1st Floor, Aishwarya Apts, 2nd Main, Shivnagar, Rajajinagar, Bengaluru-560010 and (2) Smt. Sunita Wo Sri.Prabhulinga P.A. 21 E2, 1st Floor, Aishwarya Apts, 2nd Main, Shivnagar, Rajajinagar, Bengaluru-560010 to repay the amount mentioned in the notice, being **Rs.22,64,621/- (Rupees Twenty Two Lakhs Sixty Four Thousand Six Hundred Twenty One Only)** within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The Borrowers/Guarantors/Mortgagors having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and the public in general, that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him / her under section 13 (4) of the said Act, read with Rules 8 & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this 3rd day of July 2023.

The Borrowers/Guarantors/Mortgagors in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the **Canara Bank** for an amount of **Rs.22,64,621/- (Rupees Twenty Two Lakhs Sixty Four Thousand Six Hundred Twenty One Only)** and interest alongwith cost thereon.

The borrowers attention is invited to provisions of sub Section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Description of the Immovable Property

All The Piece And Parcel Of Property Bearing No-D-1 On First Floor Constructed In Municipal No 21/4778 (Old Site No 21 Still Old No 4) And No P-20-7-2147/8, Aishwarya Apartments, 2nd Main Road, Shivnagar (Shivnahalli), Bengaluru. Property In The Name Of Mr.Prabhulinga P.A.

Date : 03.07.2023
Place : Bengaluru

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Canara Bank

CITY UNION BANK LIMITED
Credit Recovery and Management Department
Administrative Office: No.24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612001. E-Mail id: crmd@cityunionbank.in, Phone: 0435-2432322, Fax: 0435-2431746

RE-TENDER-CUM-AUCTION SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002

The following properties mortgaged to City Union Bank Limited will be sold in Re-Tender-cum-Public Auction by the Authorised Officer of the Bank, under Rule 8 (6) & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, under the SARFAESI Act, 2002, for recovery of a sum of **Rs.2,38,40,260/- (Rupees Two Crore Thirty Eight Lakh Forty Thousand Two Hundred and Sixty only)** as on 23-03-2023 together with further interest to be charged from 29-03-2023 onwards and other expenses, any other dues to the Bank by the borrowers / guarantors

No.1) **M/s. Rajdeep Tissues, No.138/12A, 4th Cross, Pantharpalya, Nayandandahalli, Mysore Road, Bangalore - 560039.** No.2) **Mrs. Asha Kothari, Wo. Vijay Kumar Kothari, 8/87, 1st Main Road, Marappa Layout, Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Bangalore - 560098.** No.3) **Mr. Vijay Kumar Kothari, S/o. Mangal Chand Kothari, No.87, 1st Main Road, Marappa Layout, Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Bangalore - 560098.** No.4) **Mr. Subhash Kothari, S/o. MC Kothari, No.15/FF 201, BHEL 2nd Stage, Pattangere, RR Nagar, Bangalore - 560098.** Also at, **Mr. Subhash Kothari, S/o. MC Kothari, 19, 3rd Cross, Agman Layout, Alligappa, Vijayanagar, Bangalore - 560040.**

Immovable Property Mortgaged to our Bank
Schedule - B : (Property Owned by M/s. Rajdeep Tissues)

Reserve Price : Rs.1,15,00,000/- (Rupees One Crore Fifteen Lakh only)

RE-AUCTION DETAILS

Date of Re-Tender-cum-Auction Sale	Venue
01-08-2023	City Union Bank Limited, Bengaluru - J.P. Nagar Branch, 253, 16th Cross, 5th Phase 24th Main, J.P. Nagar, Bengaluru, Bengaluru Rural - 560078. Telephone No.080-26581910, Cell No. 7483060907.

Terms and Conditions of Re-Tender-cum-Auction Sale:

(1) The intending bidders should be present in person for the auction and participate personally and give a declaration in writing to the effect that he/she is bidding for himself / herself. (2) The intending bidders may obtain the Tender Forms from The Manager, City Union Bank Limited, Bengaluru J.P. Nagar Branch, 253, 16th Cross, 5th Phase 24th Main, J.P. Nagar, Bengaluru, Bengaluru Rural - 560078. (3) The intending bidders should submit their bids only in the Tender Form prescribed in sealed envelopes addressed to The Authorised Officer, City Union Bank Ltd., together with a Pay Order / Demand Draft for an EMD of 10% of Reserve Price, drawn in favour of "City Union Bank Ltd.", on or before 12.00 Noon on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. (4) For inspection of the property and other particulars, the intending purchaser may contact Telephone No.080-26581910, Cell No. 7483060907. (5) The properties are sold on "As-is-where-is", "As-is-what-is" and "whatever-there is" basis. (6) The sealed tenders will be opened in the presence of the intending bidders at 01.00 pm on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. Though in general the sale will be by way of closed tenders, the Authorised Officer may, at his sole discretion, conduct an open Auction among the interested bidders who desire to quote a bid higher than the one received in the closed tender process, and in such an event, the sale shall be confirmed on the person making the highest bid. The sale, however, is subject to confirmation of City Union Bank Limited. (7) The successful bidder shall have to pay 25% (inclusive of EMD paid) of the sale amount immediately on completion of sale and the balance amount of 75% within 15 days from the date of confirmation of sale, failing which the initial deposit of 25% shall be forfeited. (8) The Sale Certificate will be issued by the Authorised Officer in favour of the successful purchaser only after receipt of the entire sale consideration within the time limit stipulated herein. (9) The successful purchaser shall bear the charges/fees payable for conveyance, such as stamp duty, registration fee etc., as applicable under law. (10) The successful bidder shall pay the statutory dues (lawful house tax, electricity charges and other dues). (11) GST, if any, due to Government Government Undertaking and local bodies. (12) The Authorised Officer shall have all the powers to accept or reject the bids or postpone or cancel the sale without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Place : Kumbakonam, Date : 05-07-2023
Authorised Officer

Regd. Office: 149, T.S.R. (Big Street), Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612001. CIN : L65110TN1904PLC001287, Telephone No.0435-2403222, Fax: 0435-2431746, Website: www.cityunionbank.com

SMART CITY THIRUVANANTHAPURAM LIMITED
CIN U75302KL2017SGC05027

E-TENDER NOTICE

E-Tenders are invited for the following projects of Smart City Thiruvananthapuram Limited Project Area 1) Request for proposal RFP for Selection of Contractor for Development of Smart Roads and Underground Ducting Including Utility Shifting of Water Supply and Power lines in ABD area Under Smart (Corporation Roads) in Thiruvananthapuram.

Sl.	Name of Project	E Tender ID	PAC Amount (Exclusive of GST)	Bid Submission Last Date
1	Road ID 42 (KK Road)	2023_SCTLT_550795_3	Rs.2,59,55,590/-	12/07/2023
2	Road ID 43 (Marakkada Road)	2023_SCTLT_550815_3	Rs.2,29,11,634/-	12/07/2023
3	Road ID 31A (Keezhe Thampanoor Road)	2023_SCTLT_551304_3	Rs. 3,20,36,478/-	12/07/2023

Date and Time of Opening Price Bid: To Be Intimated Separately to Technically Qualified Bidders by e-mail. All the RFP documents and details are available on the e-Procurement Website. Bids are only accepted online on the Website <https://etenders.kerala.gov.in>

(Sd/-), CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER,
SMART CITY THIRUVANANTHAPURAM Ltd.

Karnataka Forest Development Corporation Limited, Shivamogga Division, Shivamogga.
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Near Shivamogga R.T.O. Office, D.C. Compound, Shivamogga - 577201

e-mail: dmkfdcsmg@gmail.com Ph.: 08182-222122
No.: K.F.D.C.L./DM/SH/S-4/Planting Works/2023-24/192
Date: 04.07.2023

"e"-Tender Notice

e-Tender is invited from eligible contractors through e-procurement portal of GoK <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in> for managing advance works during Dozer Ripping/Dozing being done in Plantations selected for growing new Plantations during rainy season for the year in 2023 in Soraba Unit in the limits of Shivamogga Division of Karnataka Forest Development Corporation Limited and planting of *Acacia auriculiformis* and *Acacia Hybrid Clone* Saplings in lines of 4M x 1.5M x 2M size at 2222 saplings per Hectare in Shivamogga, Shikaripura, Soraba and Thirthahalli Units.

• Last date for submission of Tender: 18.07.2023 up to 4.00 PM

• Date of opening the Tender: 19.07.2023 after 5.00 PM

For further details visit "e" portal website <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in> or contact the phone no. of this office (08182) 222122 or at the above address during office hours.

Sd/- Divisional Manager, Shivamogga Division, Shivamogga.
DIPR/smg/No.1407/ksmca/23-24/154

ಕನರಾ ಬೆಂಕ್ Canara Bank
Yadavanahalli Branch
The Oxford Medical College Hospital & Research Centre, Anekal Tal, Attibele Hobli, Yadavanahalli, Kaveri Complex, Bengaluru - 562 107
Ph No. 080-29919071, 9482921394, E-mail: cb5911@canarabank.com

Possession Notice

APPENDIX IV under Act-Rule 8 (1) (For Immovable Property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the Canara Bank under Securitization And Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Act 54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued a Demand Notice dated 10.04.2023 calling upon the borrowers **Mr. Lokesh V (Borrower)** S/o. Mr. Venkatarama to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice, being **Rs.5,94,690.78 (Rupees Five Lakhs Ninety Four Thousand Six Hundred and Ninety and paise Seventy Eight only)** plus interest within 60 days from the date of the said notice. The Borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general, that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him / her under Section 13 (4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 & 9 of the said Rule on this 4th day of July 2023. The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Canara Bank, for an amount of **Rs.5,69,251.78** and interest thereon.

Description of the Immovable Property

All that piece and parcel of Residential property site bearing No. 18/A, Kumaraswamy Layout 2nd Stage Slum layout formed by Bangalore Development Authority, measuring East to West 05 Meters & North to South 06 meters, Allotment letter issued by BDA in the name of Mr. Lokesh Vidda Letter No.BDA: UKA-2 RFV:KUSWA: 2: SLUM:18-A: 13-14 dated 06.06.2013 vide letter reference No. 079257 with respect to site No.18/A measuring to an extent of 30sq. meters. Letter of License and Sanctioned Building plan has been issued by BBMP in the name of Mr. Lokesh S/o.Late Mr.Venkatarama Vide LP No. SPLP/36/ 2014-15M measuring to an extent of 30sq. meters Dt. 17-04-2014 and bounded as :East by :Site No. 13/A, West by : Site No.19/A, North: Site No. 17/A, South By: Road.

Sd/-
Authorised Officer
Canara Bank

ಕನರಾ ಬೆಂಕ್ Canara Bank
K.G. Halli Branch
Bengaluru-560 045
Mob: 9449860030
E-mail: cb10423@canarabank.com

DEMAND NOTICE [SECTION 13(2)]

NOTICE TO BORROWER/ GUARANTOR/MORTGAGOR

Whereas, the Authorized Officer of the Canara Bank, K. G. Halli Branch, Bengaluru under the Securitization And Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (2) of Chapter-3 of the Security Interest(Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued Demand Notice/s on below mentioned date, calling upon the following borrower/s/ Guarantor/s to repay the dues within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

Name of the Borrower: 1.Mr. Abdul Wahab (Borrower), S/o Abdul Subhan, No. 16 th Cross, Marappan Temple Street, J.B Nagar, M S Nagar Post, Bangalore-560 033, Karnataka. 2. Mrs. Rajalakshmi B (Guarantor), W/o Kartikeyan, No. 931, 2 nd H Main, 8 th Block, Koramangala, Bangalore-560 095, Karnataka	Schedule A:		
Sl. Loan Number	Nature of Loan/ Limit	Date of Sanction	Amount
1	04237210000274	Housing Loan	29.11.2007 Rs.8,10,000.00

Total Liabilities as on 08.06.2023: Rs.8,08,600.17 (Eight Lakhs Eight Thousands Six Hundred Rupees and Seventeen Paise Only) + further interest and incidental expenses and costs.

Details of Security Assets :

SCHEDULE - A: All that part and parcel of the property bearing Site No 253, carved out of Sy.No.9 (9/2), of K.Narayanapura village, K.R.Pura Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, measuring East to West : 99+103/2 Feet and North to South : 46.75 + 45.5/2 feet totaling an area of 4810 Sq Feet in the Layout called B.D.A Nagar as per conversion No.B.DIS. ALN.SR(SA) 98/2002-23 dated : 26-11-2002 by Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District and bounded on the :- East : Private Property, West Road, North : Site No. 118/1 and 118/2, South : Property No. 253A

SCHEDULE - B: 6.25% equivalent to 300.625 sq.ft of land of undivided interest in the Schedule 'A' property with a Flat No.12, at Second Floor in the unit called D-2 to be constructed on 'A' Schedule property in terms of sanctioned plan with built up area of 932.50 sq.ft (approximate) consisting of Hall, 2 Bed rooms, Kitchen, bathroom and Toilet with covered or uncovered car parking etc, with rights to use common areas like stair case, lift, balcony, terrace area, lobbies and other common areas and facility attributable thereto

SCHEDULE - C: New Flat No. 12, Second Floor, Unit D2, Site No. 253, Situated at K Narayanapura Village, K.R.Puram Hobli, Bangalore Taluk.

Name of the Title deed holder: Mr. Abdul Wahab S/o Abdul Subhan, Date of NPA: 01.05.2023 Demand Notice Date:08.06.2023

The above borrowers committed default of repayment of loans as above and the loans are duly secured by way of mortgage of property described as above and were classified as Non Performing Assets on various dates mentioned as above. The Bank issued Registered notice to all the above borrower/Guarantors under Section 13(2) of Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002, (SARFAESI Act) calling upon them to repay the outstanding amount. We now call upon to pay the above mentioned liability with further interest and cost accrued till date within 60 days from the date of this notice, failing which, Bank will be constrained to exercise its rights of enforcement of security interest as per Section 13(4) (a) to (b) of SARFAESI act 2002 against the secured assets given in the schedule above. The above borrower/s in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the above properties and restrained from dealing in term of Section 13 (13) of SARFAESI Act 2002 and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charge of Canara Bank for the amounts mentioned above with further interest and cost, expenses thereon.

Sd/-
Authorised Officer
Canara Bank



THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU • FRIDAY • JULY 07, 2023 • ₹9.00 • PAGES 38 • LATE CITY EDITION



SOFT-LANDING OF CHANDRAYAAN-3 ON LUNAR SURFACE ON AUGUST 23 OR 24

The mission will lift off from Sriharikota at 2.35 pm on July 14, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) announced on Thursday

DATE WILL DEPEND ON LUNAR SUNRISE

ISRO Chairman Somanath S told reporters that the space agency would attempt soft-landing of the lander on August 23 or August 24. Officials from the space agency said the date will be decided based on when there is sunrise on the Moon. "While landing, sunlight must be there. There is sunlight on the Moon for 14-15 days and for the next 14-15 days there is no sunlight," they said

14 DAYS IS MISSION LIFE OF LANDER

■ The mission life of the lander is one lunar day, equal to 14 Earth days. After its soft landing at a specified site, the lander will deploy the rover
■ The rover will have scientific instruments to study the lunar surface plasma environment and elemental composition, seismicity, and the thermo-physical properties of dust and rock particles on the surface | P7

LVM3

LAUNCH VEHICLE MARK-III WILL BE USED TO LAUNCH CHANDRAYAAN-3 SPACECRAFT



Chief Minister Siddaramaiah speaks at the Council in Bengaluru on Thursday

Stage set for Siddu's 14th budget today

BANSY KALAPPA @ Bengaluru

THE stage is set for CM Siddaramaiah to present his 14th State Budget of Rs 3.35 lakh crore on Friday. But the moot question is how will he manage to mop up additional resources to implement the five guarantees promised by his Congress party ahead of the May 10 Assembly elections.

"Where will the money come from and how will the government implement the five guarantees? There is limited scope for generating further revenues through taxes. And one option is to cut funds for some previous schemes and reprioritise expenditure. There is

limited option for further borrowings. The state government has to fight for more funds from the Centre. It should ensure that there is no delay in getting funds from the Centre," Prof Sankarshan Basu from IIM said.

While Siddaramaiah always prided himself on the fact that revenue surplus increased from Rs 127 crore to Rs 910 crore dur-

ing his previous tenure as CM, experts said that it was a "pre-guarantee" era.

Siddaramaiah presented his first budget in 1995. Then, he was a newcomer to the world of finance and budgets. He used to consult the then Finance Secretary BK Bhattacharya and Commercial Tax Commissioner K Jairaj, who were well-versed in

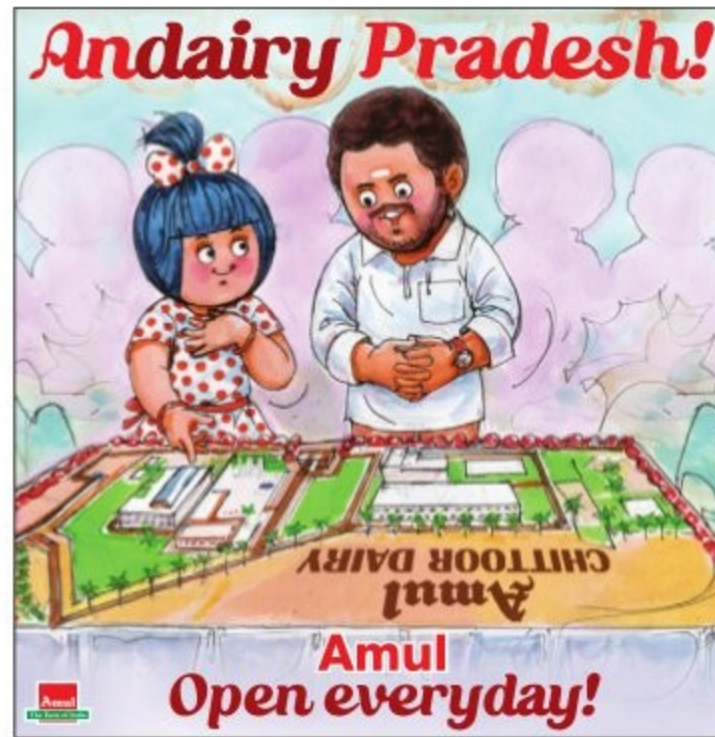
money matters.

Jairaj said, "We had about 10-11 sessions and Siddaramaiah was a quick learner." ISN Prasad, who retired as additional chief secretary a few days ago, said, "Siddaramaiah takes a lot of interest in budget preparation, gives time and effort and gets into details."

Meanwhile sources in the CMO said, "Siddaramaiah focussed on kayaka and dasoha, the principles of Sri Basavanna. Funds have been allocated to agriculture, industry, service sector and skill development. Allocation of funds to Ahinda and Shudra communities is a testimony to Basavanna's ideals."

BOMMAI TO CM: DO NOT HIKE TAXES

Bengaluru: Former chief minister Basavaraj Bommai on Thursday suggested to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah not to burden people by hiking taxes. "The state government should implement the five guarantees without imposing more taxes on the people and without raising more loans, or they will turn out to be anti-people guarantees," he said. P6



Sharad Pawar expels rebels, says he's boss

Sacks Praful Patel, Tat Kare, nine other MLAs

PREETHA NAIR @ New Delhi

THE high-decible political drama being played out in Maharashtra politics shifted to Delhi on Thursday with the working committee of the Nationalist Congress Party headed by Sharad Pawar expelling Praful Patel, Sunil Tat Kare, and nine other MLAs who switched sides to join the Sena-BJP government in Maharashtra.

The move came a day after Maharashtra deputy CM and NCP leader Ajit Pawar removed Sharad Pawar as president of the party, which he founded more than two decades ago.

After chairing a crucial national executive meeting in New Delhi, Sharad Pawar asserted he is still the president of his party. "I am the president of NCP. We will rebuild the party," he said. Dismissing Ajit Pawar's claim of being the real NCP president, Pawar said: "Anyone can say anything. There is no truth in it."

Responding to his nephew's comments about his age, the veteran leader said, "I am still effective, whether I am 82 or 92." Earlier this week, Ajit Pawar took a swipe at senior Pawar, urging him to step down and make way for new generation leaders.

Addressing the media after the working committee meeting, party leader P C Chacko said all 27 state committees of the party are in support of Sharad Pawar. Eight resolutions were passed in the meeting to ratify the expulsion of the nine rebel MLAs who took oath as ministers in the Shinde government.

If some people leave a party, it doesn't mean the party has diminished. I will rebuild our party

Sharad Pawar, NCP president



NCP chief Sharad Pawar arrives to address the media in Delhi on Thursday | PTI

Sharad Pawar also sought to play down Ajit Pawar's remarks that the meeting called by him has no legal sanctity as the dispute on who represents the real NCP is within the jurisdiction of the ECI.

The veteran leader said: "The meeting was called as per the party's Constitution."

He also expressed faith in the Election Commission. "We have faith in the EC. We are clear about the legal position," he said. According to sources, Sharad Pawar has sent a letter to the EC, questioning why he was kept in the dark about Ajit Pawar's staking claim for the party symbol.

Sharad Pawar also dismissed suggestions that the NCP had diminished in strength after the rebellion.

WORLD CLASS

First foreign IIT campus in Zanzibar

KAVITA BAJELI-DATT @ New Delhi

THE Indian Institute of Technology, Madras is set to open the country's first overseas IIT campus in Tanzania's Zanzibar in October.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed on Thursday between the Union Ministry of Education, IIT-Madras and the Ministry of Education and Vocational Training Zanzibar-Tanzania, in the presence of External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar and President of Zanzibar Dr Hussein Mwinyi.

Jaishankar, who is on a four-day official visit to Tanzania, called it a "historic step that reflects India's commitment to the Global South". Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan said it marked the beginning of "internationalisation of Indian education".

The first batch will have 50 undergraduate and 22 postgraduate students. IIT-Madras will set curricula, screen students and award degrees, while the government of Zanzibar will pay for capital and operating expenses. The campus will offer four undergraduate and five postgraduate programmes. The state-of-the-art interdisciplinary degrees are expected to attract a diverse cohort of students from Tanzania and other countries, including India.

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 calls on high-performing Indian universities to open campuses abroad. IIT-Delhi and IIT-Kharagpur are also set to open campuses in Abu Dhabi and Kuala Lumpur, respectively.

Buzz on PM contesting from TN too

Outreach

The recent installation of the Sengol in Parliament is said to be part of the PM's strategy to win the hearts of the TN voters by honouring the Adheenams

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

THERE is a buzz about Prime Minister Narendra Modi contesting the upcoming Lok Sabha elections from Tamil Nadu as well as Varanasi.

The proposal to contest from TN is apparently aimed at taking the BJP's Mission South forward.

"It would not be surprising if Modi were to contest from TN as well. His Kashi-Tamil Sangam initiative some

months ago contributed in strengthening his connect with TN," remarked senior political analyst P K D Nambiar. If Modi were to contest from Kanyakumari, the strong cultural links between Kashi and Kanyakumari would come into play.

Another source, who has a deep understanding of the BJP, recently said contesting from Kashi and Kanyakumari would be well suited for the PM's stature. Speculation is also rife on the PM picking Coimbatore to



OPERATION FLOOD

People carry a sick elderly man through a flooded area at Thiruvalla in Kerala on Thursday | PTI

KSRTC driver attempts suicide over transfer, blames minister

K SHIVA KUMAR @ Mysuru

A suicide attempt by a KSRTC driver at Nagamangala in Mandya taluk has led a political slugfest between the ruling Congress and opposition BJP and JDS.

HR Jagadish, the driver, blamed Agriculture Minister N Chaluvarayaswamy for his "untimely" transfer and attempted suicide. BJP and JDS have demanded that the minister resign. Jagadish, who came for work on Wednesday, was given the order transferring him from Nagamangala to Maddur depot.

Refusing to accept the order, Jagadish, a resident of Andenahalli in Nagamangala taluk, alleged that Chaluvarayaswamy was behind his transfer and consumed poison. His colleagues, who saw him drinking poison, shifted him to a hospital. He was then rushed to a super speciality hospital where he is battling for his life.

Jagadish and his family members alleged that he has been transferred for political reasons as his wife Pawana is a member of Kanthapuram gram panchayat. She is with JDS. They alleged that local Congress leader Mahadev and others loyal to Chaluvarayaswamy got Jagadish transferred to Maddur. Pawana said that her husband is being targeted by local Congress leaders.

Assistant depot manager Manjunath said a woman passenger had complained against Jagadish for misbehaving with her. When the matter was brought to the notice of minister Chaluvarayaswamy, he directed the officers concerned to transfer the driver.

Jagadish's brother Ravikumar said, "Why haven't they served any notice or conducted an inquiry before transferring my brother to Maddur?" P6



DEADLINE

OCA agrees for July 23 for wrestling team

The Olympic Council of Asia has given partial extension for wrestling team but the IOA wants a few days more.

The IOA president has written to the OCA for further extension — at least until August 5 | P13

RAMASHANKAR AND RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ Patna / New Delhi

POURING cold water on Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's prime ministerial ambitions, RJD supremo Lalu Prasad Yadav on Thursday hinted that Congress leader Rahul Gandhi might be his choice for the Opposition's PM pick in 2024.

Before leaving for Delhi for his routine health check up, Lalu told reporters in Patna that the next prime minister of the country should not live in the PM's official residence without a wife. "Staying in PM's residence without a wife is wrong and that should be done away with," he quipped.

His satirical comment was in

response to a query that if his recent advice to Rahul 'to get married' meant he preferred the Congress leader to be the Opposition's PM candidate.

In the recent Opposition meeting in Patna, Lalu had praised Rahul's efforts during the Bharat Jodo Yatra and his parliamentary speeches.

While Rahul remains single, Bihar CM Nitish's wife passed away in 2007.

According to sources, a cold war is brewing between Lalu and Nitish with the recent transfer of a senior IAS officer close to the RJD leader being the latest trigger.

After reaching Delhi, Lalu said the BJP's days in power are limited and that the entire



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi with RJD chief Lalu Prasad Yadav | PTI

NEXT STOP B'LURU

Lalu Prasad said his next priority is to prepare the ground for ousting the Narendra Modi government from the Centre in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections. He will soon leave for Bengaluru for the meeting of the opposition parties scheduled on July 17-18

Rahul Gandhi did a good job during his Bharat Jodo Yatra. He also spoke well in Parliament. He should marry now

Lalu Prasad during Oppn meeting in Patna last month

Lalu's couple quip goes against Nitish's PM ambitions

POLITICS

WITH THIS ISSUE

CITY'S BEST WEEKEND GUIDE

INDULGE

38 PAGES, INCLUDING 24 OF INDULGE (TABLET/D)

Gruha Jyothi or not, you have to pay arrears

As per KERC orders, consumers will have to pay dues for June and July; experts suggest govt staggers collection

BOSKY KHANNA @Bengaluru

IF you thought that once you have registered for Gruha Jyothi, you won't have to pay anything for electricity from August 1, then you are mistaken.

While a consumer will not be billed for the monthly units consumed, if the number is below 200 units, the consumer will, however, have to pay arrears for the months of June and July, as per KERC orders. The consumer will also have to pay arrears for the past three months, which are pending with a prescribed penalty. Energy department officials told *The New Indian Express*.

Consumers, who cried foul at the sudden spike in electricity bills in May, which reflected in

ESCOM	CONSUMERS REGISTERED
Bescom	41,74,540
Cesc (Mysuru)	15,54,497
Gescom (Kalaburgi)	10,72,214
Hescom (Hubballi-Dharwad)	21,40,220
Mescom (Mangaluru)	11,69,667
HREC (Hukkeri Rural Electricity Cooperative Society)	51,277



the June bill, are again shocked by the July bill, which includes arrears.

Officials clarified that till June, various Electricity Supply Corporations (Escoms) were collecting arrears as per KERC orders during Q2 and Q3

of 2022-23. From the month of July, recovery of arrears as per the Fuel and Power Purchase Cost Adjustment (FPPCA) will start, as per the KERC order dated June 2, 2023, from July to December 2023.

To communicate details of

arrears to the consumers, various Escoms had put out a government order on their websites, along with the KERC order, said a Bescom official.

"If the KERC order of the last quarter of the last financial year was to be billed, then consumers would have to pay hefty electricity bills as the charges were over 90 paise per unit. So we had approached KERC to permit staggering the payment on a monthly basis. This is reflecting as arrears in the bills," the official said, clarifying that the rate of collection of arrears will differ on quarterly basis for various Escoms.

There will also be instances where arrears will be negative, which will also be passed on to

consumers in subsequent billing cycles. Consumers, however, point out that electricity bills have shot up in the past couple of months and are a burden. "We request the state government to either put off collection of arrears or stagger them for a longer duration, by reducing the amount. Escoms can again appeal before KERC for adjustments," suggested experts.

Registrations cross 1 crore

As per the energy department and e-governance department records, registration for the Gruha Jyothi scheme crossed the one crore mark on July 5, 2023, with 1,00,20,163 consumers recorded by the portal till 11pm. This went up to 1,01,62,415 consumers till 5.30pm on July 6.

Nations must put joint efforts in space: MoS

DONNA EVA @Bengaluru

MINISTER of State for the Department of Atomic Energy and Department of Space Jitendra Singh said as the challenges and concerns of all nations in the space sector are the same, efforts between countries in space must also be the same.

He was speaking at the fourth G20 Space Economy Leaders' Meeting (SELM) on Thursday. The meeting included prominent leaders from various space agencies who gathered to discuss the formation of an alliance between space-faring nations.

"Space technology has virtually entered every household. Every aspect of human life, whether it is disaster management, disaster prevention, agriculture, health and education, space technology has stepped in one way or another. In the last nine years, India has made a quantum jump in space technology, despite starting relatively late compared to other countries," he said.

He said with the country opening up the space sector to private players, there are already over 140 startups, with India already having a sound footing in the space sector. He also said due to this, it has showcased the importance of collaboration between all players. "The recent public-private partnerships have taught us the benefits of an integrated approach in the space sector. This is why there is a need to get together for an extended discussion in this area. Space technology has introduced modern craftsmanship in every sector, construction of railway tracks, smart cities and housing, telemedicine, agriculture."

Soon, fines for drink-driving on e-way

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

WHILE the police are taking multiple steps to curb the accidents on the Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway with the recent move to slap fines on speeding vehicles, they are also contemplating penalising those who drink and drive.

The police department, led by Additional Director General of Police (Traffic and Road Safety) Alok Kumar, who inspected the stretch, has insisted on setting up signboards stat-

ing that those who overspeed as well as drink and drive will be penalised.

"The drive to catch over-speeding vehicles has already commenced. Ramanagara police have begun the drive. Mandya and Mysuru police will also start it. Along with this, we will soon start drives to catch those who drink and drive," a police officer said.

The official said checking for drink-driving will be held at entry points of the e-way and toll gates, and added they will rope in the National High-



ways Authority of India (NHAI) for the drives.

Traffic expert M N Sreehari said the police have woken up from their deep slumber and

5 DAYS AFTER VOLUNTEERS CLEAN LAKE, YOUTHS DUMP GARBAGE

MOHAMMED YACOOB @Bengaluru

FIVE days after volunteers of Vibhutipura Kere Kshema Abhivrudhi Sanga and citizens from nearby layouts cleaned the Vibhutipura Lake surroundings and planted saplings, two youths were on Thursday caught dumping plastic waste into the water body.

After walkers confronted the youths, they tried to justify their act by stating that it was only puja items.

The volunteers immediately brought the matter to the attention of BBMP Chief Engineer (Lakes) Vijayakumar Haridas, who said he will ask the engineers concerned to look into the issue. Haridas added that an FIR will be registered against the youths.

A video of the confrontation between the volunteers and youths went viral on social media. "Dumping waste in lakes is a violation. We have conducted awareness programmes on this and have even roped in resident welfare associations regarding do's and don'ts on lake premises. We will try to get an FIR reg-



Volunteers clean up Vibhutipura Lake area in Bengaluru | EXPRESS

istered into the incident as this will prove a deterrent," Haridas said. Haridas added that security measures like additional home guards will be deployed in all lakes across the city.

Sathyavani Sridhar, BPAC member and Talacauvery Layout resident who was involved in rejuvenating the lake, expressed displeasure over the people dumping garbage. "The lake was brought to life

after a lot of struggle. Last Saturday and Sunday, residents of Veerabhadra Nagar, Brindavan Layout and apartments in nearby areas cleaned the lake area and planted saplings. BBMP should install CCTV cameras and fence the water body," Sridhar said.

She added that police patrolling has become irregular and many illegal activities were noticed on the lake premises.

STATE-WIDE LOK ADALAT TOMORROW

Bengaluru: More than 23 lakh cases, pre-litigation and pending, have been referred to Lok Adalat to be held on July 8 across the state, for amicable settlement, according to Justice G Narendar, High Court Judge and Executive Chairman of Karnataka State Legal Services Authority (KSLSA). Addressing reporters here on Thursday, Justice Narendar said that it is a unique opportunity for litigants to settle their cases in an easy manner. Justice K Somashekar, High Court Judge and Chairman of the High Court Legal Services Committee, said the objective of the Lok Adalat is to ensure timely justice. He said motor vehicle accident cases, partition suits, civil disputes, money recovery suits, cheque bounce cases, complaints pending before consumer commissions, and disputes over BBMP property tax revenue cases among others will be taken up. ENS

Budget wish list

EDUCATION

Loss of learning due to Covid has not been addressed properly. Each district should assess the level of learning and put out a plan so that the state can allocate a budget

Dr VP Niranjanaradhya, developmental educationist

Funds must be allocated to strengthen foundational stage of education under NEP. The trend is to allocate money for higher education, while school education goes unseen. This must change

Dr Ganesh Bhatt, educationist

HEALTH

There is a need to strengthen the healthcare system at the district and taluk level. The government should set up trauma care centres, neuro and mental health centres along with focus on cardiac issues

Dr CN Manjunath, Sri Jayadeva Institute

We hope funds are allocated for research on management of long Covid, tuberculosis and non-communicable diseases. ASHAs should be made permanent and ambulance services are improved

Dr Sylvia Karpagam, doctor

WELFARE

The government should improve the teacher-student ratio. There are so many vacancies impacting the education sector. Extra attention needs to be given to the nutrition needs of mothers

Vasudev Sharma, Child Rights Trust

The government should create awareness programmes and policies that will help women feel safer in public areas. There should be benefits and subsidies for Anganwadi and ASHA workers

Vimala Aidwa, activist



STARTUP

We are hopeful that the announcements in the budget will align with the expectations of the sericulture farmers and the silk industry. The government should extend financial support to the sector, by way of tax breaks and low-interest loans to entrepreneurs, given the state's reputation as an innovation hub

Mayank Tiwari, Founder and CEO, ReshaMandi



I wish that this budget announces the construction of multi-level parking complexes across the city. In this way, traffic congestion in the city can be significantly reduced

M N Sreehari, traffic expert



I am expecting buses will be made so reliable and affordable that they will become people's first choice. A Streets for All mission that makes walking and cycling safe and fun for everyone

Shreya Gadepalli, urban mobility expert



CM Siddaramaiah is a veteran of many budgets. This time, the challenge looks bigger, but I will not be surprised if he reverses past trends of deficit budgets and delivers a surprise

Harish Bijoor, brand guru



I would like to see more budget allocation for improving Bengaluru's creaking infrastructure. The government must focus on doubling the number of buses and bus routes

Vishnu Gattupalli, B'uru Apartment Federation

Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

07th July: If you were reading earlier in the week, you'll remember I asked if it is important whether we call our Moona planet or not. The quick answer is 'no'. What's far more important is the way in which its gravity affects not only the daily tides but the earth's long-term movements, which in turn have a massive impact on major climate cycles - and hence the world as we know it.

ARIES

(Mar 21 - Apr 20)

If anything, you'll become inclined to take a risk today than earlier in the week. It is impossible to say, though, whether your gamble will be financial or emotional. If it's a child or younger relative who is breaking out, they deserve trust and words of wise advice, rather than restraint.

TAURUS

(Apr. 21 - May 21)

From a purely personal point of view, your chart speaks of the need to put creative self-fulfilment first. However, other indications suggest that partners' demands or children's needs will overwhelm you. Perhaps you need some help. You'd better ask quickly!

GEMINI

(May 22 - June 21)

It is sometimes difficult for astrologers to square your serious attitude to work with your light-hearted reputation. The problem you'll face today is that the past must be addressed before the future can be planned, and that can be a painful process. I have every confidence in you, though.

CANCER

(June 22 - July 23)

The Moon is causing trouble in a region of your chart ruling self-indulgence, so you really should take a little time off to pamper yourself. The only responsibilities you can't dodge anymore may come in the form of children, young people and others with vastly less experience than you.

LEO

(July 24 - Aug. 23)

Domestic affairs should take priority today. This is not a forecast, but advice which you are free to ignore. My prediction is, though, that if you take no notice of this warning then you could run into a spot of needless bother tomorrow.

VIRGO

(Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)

Serious discussions will doubtless perform a vital role in helping you resolve the irritations of the past month and in enabling you to see your way forward to a more hassle-free future. The trouble is that someone just seems to treat everything as a joking matter.

LIBRA

(Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)

The entire situation is looking decidedly complicated, probably because you're torn between keeping yourself to yourself on the one hand, and letting everyone else in on the act on the other. You've just got to work out what's important and what's not.

SCORPIO

(Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)

The fact that the Moon is now aligned with your sign should put you in an commanding position. The only complicated planetary aspects occur around the early morning when there may be a fleeting doubt about a particular plan. That aside, the world is yours.

SAGITTARIUS

(Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)

The main variation in your solar chart is provided by the movement of the Moon's emotional movements, raising hidden hopes from your unconscious. This is all very positive, for if such worries are brought into the open you can do something about them.

CAPRICORN

(Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)

There are times when you can find yourself paying for friends. Social extravagance does still seem to be very much a vital factor. In the final analysis, the end result depends on how happy you are to be subsidising other people, perhaps more than whether you can actually afford to do so.

AQUARIUS

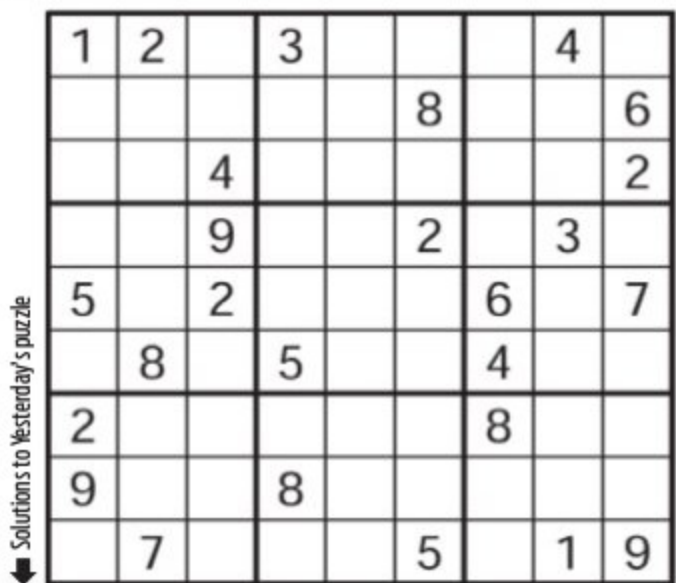
(Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)

Emotional opposition from other people, mainly close partners, does still seem to be a nuisance, but doesn't have to be so. Your best chance is probably to make a tactical retreat, sure in the knowledge that others will soon turn themselves out, leaving you to clean up.

PISCES

(Feb. 20 - Mar 20)

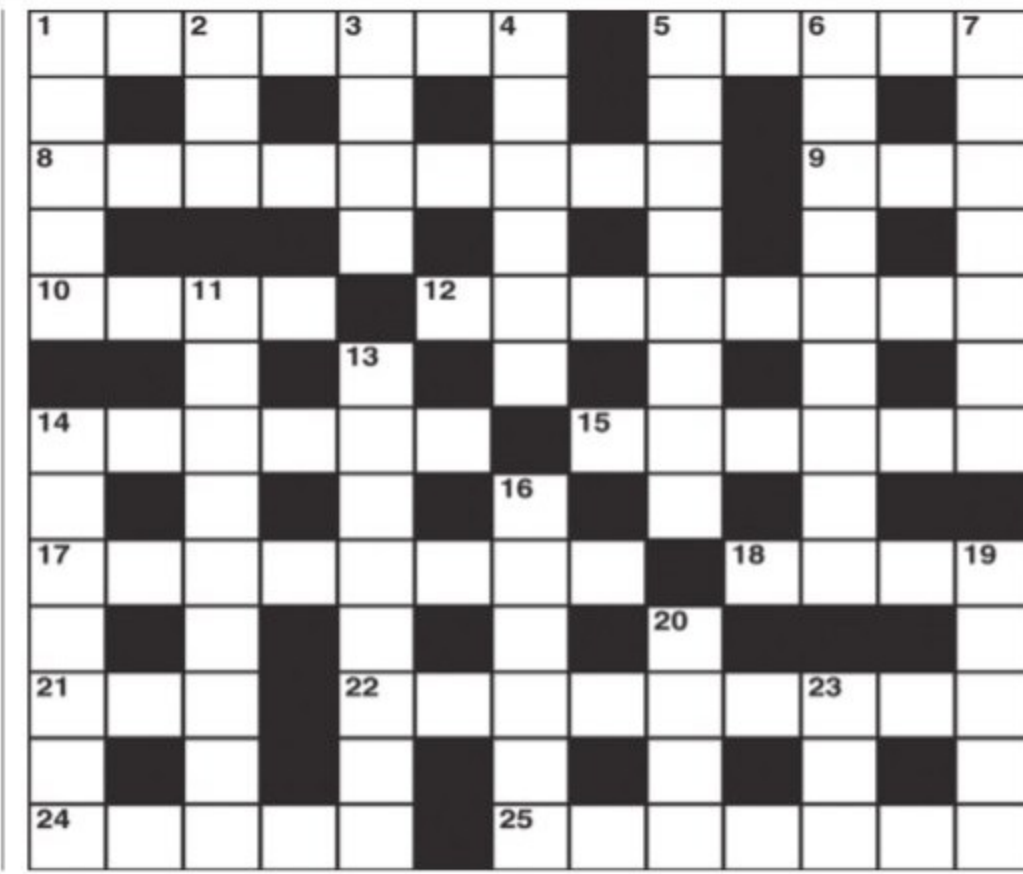
There are many levels of reality, as you well know. If you love anarchy, you'll probably be quite happy, but if you'd rather have an ordered life you may have an uphill struggle. Forget 'real-life' and look to these mystical Piscean realms for the answer!



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Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3x3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.



CROSS WORD

ACROSS

- Switch it up bulb (5)
- Employment struggle after hostility (4-3)
- Sphere of some junior bookkeeper (3)
- It may be present in March or April (6,3)
- Continuously playing with article to put on (2,3,2)
- A charge on collection (5)
- Ordered raid on backstreet to find secret societies (6)
- Worshipper bustle and colour (6)
- Clergyman is able to get on (5)
- He doesn't appreciate where the coal goes (7)
- Rouse the fiery Celt perhaps (9)
- Carbon that is about to freeze (3)
- Worked as a masseur as required we hear (7)
- Artist when old retires south (5)

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Red herring, 8 Ambie, 9 Cleaver, 10 Legend, 11 Uzi, 12 Bellow, 14 Bestow, 17 Extra, 19 Emotion, 21 Temini, 22 Dives, 23 Enterprise.

DOWN

- Dated and removed (4,3)
- He shoves work done by others (9)
- Quietly direct to play (5)
- Working for a model employer? (6)
- Editor's written about a drug (7)
- We write about nothing but misery (3)
- Just correct (5)
- New emigrants continuously on the move (9)
- Indicated it is not in action (7)
- Makes harder to fathom? (7)
- Letter bound to have shown sympathy (6)
- Lip is part of one's face (5)
- Ridiculed the conductor audibly (5)
- First offender caught in the very act (3)

JUMBLE UNSCRAMBLE THESE JUMBLES, ONE LETTER TO EACH SQUARE, TO FORM FOUR ORDINARY WORDS.

BY DAVID L HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK



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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Yesterday's Jumbles: VITAL NIECE WEALTH DOLLAR
Answer: It's impossible for humans to know everything, which we just have to — LEARN TO LIVE WITH

'K'taka's fight against tobacco yielding results'

Report by Institute of Public Health says state government's initiatives have percolated down to the district level as well



EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

KARNATAKA'S initiatives to control tobacco consumption have been effective, according to a report released by the Institute of Public Health (IPH).

Dr Pragati Hebbar, principal investigator of the study conducted by IPH, Bengaluru, said, "Karnataka is one of the better performing states in tobacco control as intersectoral coordination was noticed in the state. Based on our observations, we found that the State Government's initiatives have percolated down to the district level as well. Tobacco consumption in the state dropped from 28.2% in 2009 to 22.8% in 2016, which is significant."

Dr Hebbar was speaking on the sidelines of the National Consultation of Tobacco Control Programme organised by IPH here on Thursday.

Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao, who participated in the programme, said, "The war against tobacco is continuing.

But with awareness programmes, some progress has been made. Consumption of tobacco, alcohol and poor diet result in multiple lifestyle diseases, which should be identified and treated early."

The five-year survey indicated a significant association between implementation of policies and prevalence of tobacco use in the country.

People who saw "No Smoking" signs exhibited a decreased likelihood of consuming tobacco. However, passive smoking and advertisements related to tobacco products were linked to increased likelihood of tobacco use (both smokeless and smoked tobacco).

Though the country made significant progress in tobacco control in the past decade, tobacco-related illnesses and deaths continue to affect people across all states. The survey aimed at creating policies to further strengthen tobacco prevention and control efforts at national, state and district levels.



WATCH THE HOUSE

Students arrive at Vidhana Soudha to watch the legislature proceedings, in Bengaluru on Thursday | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

EXPRESS READ

Bomb threat call to mosque turns out to be hoax

BENGALURU: An unidentified man rang 112 (Emergency Response Support System) around 10pm on Wednesday claiming that terrorists have placed explosives at Masjid-E-Azam on OPH Road in Shivajinagar. Bomb disposal squad along with the local police and senior police officers rushed to the mosque. After a thorough search of the mosque, the police declared it a hoax call. Further probe is on. **ENS**

Decision on PRR for Bengaluru soon: DKS

BENGALURU: Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar said that the state government will soon decide on the proposed Peripheral Ring Road (PRR) in Bengaluru. Speaking in the Legislative Council on Thursday, Shivakumar said that the city has grown and it won't be a Peripheral Ring Road anymore, and the project may require around Rs 20,000 crore, including Rs 7,000 crore for construction. "I held a meeting on Wednesday, and there is serious thinking about what can be done to make the project viable. Farmers are not ready to give their land as prices have shot up. We can't proceed without taking them into confidence. But we will take a decision on the matter soon," he said. **ENS**

Cheating case: Court refuses to discharge HAL official, aide

YATHIRAJU @Bengaluru

THE Special Court for Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) cases refused to discharge S Velmurugan, then deputy general manager, HR, Rotary Wing Research and Design Centre, Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) and another accused, Binish Thomas, in a corruption case.

They were charged with cheating the chairman of Eve-

hans Academy of Rs 1.30 crore, by promising to lease 6 acres 5 guntas of land belonging to HAL, opposite ISRO complex in Doddanekkundi, in Bengaluru.

"There is ample material that makes out a clear prima facie case against the accused. While a strong suspicion is sufficient to frame charges, in this case, there is a clear prima facie case that implicates the

accused. Therefore, there is sufficient material to frame charges for offences punishable under Section 120-B read with 420 IPC and Section 13(2) read with 13(1)(d) of Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 (amended)," said KL Ashok, Principal Special Judge for CBI cases, dismissing the application filed by the accused.

The vigilance department of Facilities Management System (FMD), the custodian of all land records of HAL, received a written complaint dated August 29, 2018, from MK Samuel, chairman of Evehans Academy, Bengaluru, against Velmurugan, alleging that he had misused his official position by promising to lease out Hindustan Aeronautics Limited land to Evehans Academy.

The FMD conducted a de-

tailed investigation and awarded punishment to Velmurugan by demoting him to the post of Senior Manager (Grade V) from the post of Deputy General Manager.

The probe disclosed his involvement by abusing his official position.

He was charged with corresponding on Hindustan Aeronautics Limited letterheads, with the intention to defame the name and reputation of

HAL, to further the conspiracy hatched with Binish Thomas, accused No. 2, in 2017.

It was alleged in the chargesheet by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) that Velmurugan had cheated Samuel to the tune of Rs 1.30 crore by abusing his official position and obtaining pecuniary advantage.

Both the accused, however, pleaded before court that they are innocent.

They were very keen on filing an FIR. The worth of the cable is only Rs 3,000. However, there is a chance that more valuable items could be stolen in future. So they did not want to take any chance. **Police**



They were very keen on filing an FIR. The worth of the cable is only Rs 3,000. However, there is a chance that more valuable items could be stolen in future. So they did not want to take any chance. **Police**



Veerabdraiah Hiremath claimed he had travelled from Bengaluru to Kundgol

Burqa-clad man caught in Kundgol bus stand

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Hubballi

A 50-year-old man from Vijayapura district was caught by authorities at Samshi Bus Stand in Kundgol taluk of Dharwad district.

The man, clad in a burqa, was begging near the bus stand. Some people grew suspicious and informed police. He gave his name as Veerabdraiah Hiremath from Sidahi taluk, and said he had travelled from Bengaluru to Kundgol by bus. He claimed he was a beggar. Police said the man appeared to be mentally unstable. "It's not clear if the man was wearing a burqa to avail the free bus ride for women under Shakti scheme. In fact, we carried out a search and found an Aadhaar card in his possession, which had details of a woman. Some people claimed to have seen him coming from Laxmeshwar in Gadag district. He was let off after a warning," said an official.

HC directs EC to conduct polls to Teachers' seat

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

POST the Assembly elections, the Bangalore Teachers' constituency has no representative in the new Assembly. The Karnataka Associated Managements of Schools (KAMS) and Karnataka Private Schools Managements, Teaching and Non-Teaching Staff Coordination Committee (KPMTCC) had filed a writ petition in the Karnataka High Court for intervention, and the court on Thursday asked the Election Commission of India to conduct elections for the constituency, and sought a reply from the commission for delay in action.

Earlier, Puttanna was an MLC for a period of six years, from 2021 to 2027, and resigned from the post in March 2023 to join the Congress since the post was vacant. Activists have alleged that their voices and issues are going unheard and the government is not concerned with their problems.

This particular constituency has around 8,000 schools under its jurisdiction and more than one lakh teachers. The vacant position for the last three months has "no one to raise their voice in Council", read the petition. As per law, the Election Commission cannot keep the said post vacant under section 151 A of the Representation of People Act, which says that filling of vacancies should be done within 6 months from the date of occurrence of the vacancy. Voter rights will be affected due to this. Sashi Kumar, KAMS, said, "It's crucial that elections be conducted as soon as possible. Despite giving so many letters and requesting the Commission, they have not acted in this regard." He added that this is one of the biggest MLC constituencies compared to others, as "Teachers from 38 MLA constituencies will be voting for the elections."

Another activist said that issues such as vacancies, posting, salaries, workload and curriculum have no representation in the Assembly.

POPPY HUSK WORTH ₹66 LAKH RECOVERED FROM PEDDLER

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

A 25-year-old drug peddler, who was procuring poppy husk from Rajasthan through couriers, was arrested by VV Puram police. They have recovered 60 kilograms of husk worth around Rs 66 lakh from him.

The accused, identified as Singh, who stays in Bengaluru

rural district, was arrested in VV Puram. "Singh used to grind the husk and sell it to his customers. We are still verifying his background and checking the details of purchasers," said an officer who was part of the investigations.

The police also recovered a luggage vehicle from him. VV Puram police registered a case under NDPS against the accused.

Singh used to grind the husk and sell it to his customers. We are still verifying his background and checking the details of purchasers. **Police**

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For more details, please visit **www.spices.res.in**

CANCELLATION OF GENERAL POWER OF ATTORNEY
I. **MR.SELVARAJ ASHOK KUMAR**, S/o Late.B.N.Selvaraj, aged about 60 years, Currently R/at No.145, Meadowbrook Drive, MC Donough, Georgia, USA - 30253 and permanent resident of No.1830, 2nd Main, HAL 3rd Stage, Indiranagar, Bengaluru-560075 have cancelled the General Power of Attorney dated 21-12-2022 appointing **Mr.SELVARAJ SIVA KUMAR** as my lawful attorney. Henceforth all or any act done or executed by **Mr.SELVARAJ SIVA KUMAR** in pursuance of General Power of attorney executed by me or under my name shall not be deemed to be my acts nor done in my name or on my behalf.

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is to inform to General Public that my client **Mr. H.Y. Ramesh Reddy**, S/o Late Yellareddy a resident of Handenahalli Village, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District has initiated a suit for Specific Performance of Agreement of Sale in respect of the Schedule Property before the Hon'ble Principal Civil Judge and JWC at Anekal, against **M/s. HOME LAND RESORTS PRIVATE LIMITED** and **M/s. URBAN SPACE PROJECTS PRIVATE LIMITED** having their Office at 2nd Floor, T.R. Business Center, Outer Ring Road, Kadubesanahalli, Marthahalli Post, Bengaluru-560037 and others on 04.09.2021 as Original Suit No. 336/2021 and the same is under pending adjudication and the same is well within the knowledge of the aforesaid persons. Very recently our client came to know that they are trying to create encumbrance in favour of 3rd parties. Therefore if any such transactions between the above said persons and others in respect of the schedule property is not binding on our clients.
SCHEDULE PROPERTIES
Non-agricultural residential converted lands measuring (1) 1 acre and 12 guntas out of total extent of 1 acre and 30 guntas out of survey No. 155/2 AND (2) 1 Acre and 32 guntas, Survey No. 156/2 both the lands are situated at Yedavanehalli Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District as per Official Memorandum of the Deputy Commissioner, Bengaluru District vide No. B.Dis.AL.N.SR(A) 22/1991-92 dated 21.11.1991.
G.T. YATHISHA, Advocate
No. 928, 4th Cross, BEL Layout, Vidyanarayana, Bengaluru-560097.
Phone: 9900783001. Date: 03/06/2023

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Don't increase taxes, Bommai tells Siddu

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

FORMER chief minister Basavaraj Bommai on Thursday suggested to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah not to reduce allocation for capital investment in his budget, and also not to burden the people by hiking taxes.

"The state government should implement the five guarantees without imposing more taxes on the people and without raising more loans, or they will turn out to be anti-people guarantees," he said, responding to the Governor's speech in the assembly.

He claimed that post the pandemic, Karnataka's economic situation has improved. "I had presented a surplus budget as we received good revenue, so on the pretext of implementing the guarantees, tax hike should not be imposed. Since almost half the financial year is over without the guarantees, as the government has already applied certain conditions, they could be managed with an allocation of Rs 25,000 crore," he said.

GST collection has increased, and so have taxes, including sales tax, commercial tax, excise, stamp duty and motor vehicles' tax, and the government doesn't need to borrow more loans, he said, adding that Karnataka's Gross State Domestic Product stood at 9 per cent, while the country's GDP is at 7 per cent.

"I have presented a surplus budget with a fiscal deficit of 2.7 per cent, with a scope for borrowing Rs 78,000 crore. The money allocated by our government can be used for infrastructure development, irrigation projects, besides education, agriculture and service sectors," he advised.

"You said implementation of the guarantees will cost Rs 52,000 crore. However, since everything is conditioned, it should cost only about Rs 20,000-25,000 crore," he told Siddaramaiah, and wished him to showcase his expertise in his 14th budget.



Former CM Basavaraj Bommai makes a point in the Assembly on Thursday



Chief Minister Siddaramaiah speaks in the Council on Thursday | EXPRESS

K'TAKA TO MAKE STRONG CASE FOR TAX SHARE

We are short-changed, parties should unitedly fight for our right: Siddaramaiah

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

CHIEF Minister Siddaramaiah said the state government will strongly argue its case and submit 'terms of reference' to the 16th Finance Commission, to prevail on the Central government to get its rightful share of tax.

Siddaramaiah told the Upper House that the 14th Finance Commission had fixed a tax share of 4.71 per cent for Karnataka, which was reduced to 3.65 per cent by the 15th Finance Commission.

"There was a reduction of 1.06 per cent. We had asked for tax devolution of 41 per cent, but got only 31 per cent. In 2021, the 15th Finance Commission recommended Rs 5,495 crore in special grants to the state in its interim report. But Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said the grants can't be given, citing that other states will also demand," the CM said.

Noting that as Opposition leader he had demanded that the previous BJP government fight to get the money the state is entitled to, Siddaramaiah said there should be no politics in the matter, and parties should be united in getting what the state rightfully deserves. He was replying to a question by Janata Dal (Secu-

lar) MLC KA Thippeswamy.

Siddaramaiah said the state had got Rs 33,094 crore in 2018-19 and Rs 34,952 crore in 2022-23 from the Centre, and the amount had reduced, if inflation was taken into consideration. "We are not given any share in cess, surcharge and other taxes that come under the Central sector. Based on population, more is given to states like Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh, and we are punished even when we show better performance in tax collection," the CM said.

The 'terms of reference' for the 16th Finance Commission were being drawn up, and the state will be clear that it needs a bigger share. "We will also raise the issue in the GST Council," he added.

To a question by MLC TA Saravana, the CM said the state does not have complete information on the tax sent to the Centre. "We do not get to know the tax collected under the central sector, but the state has information on tax collected under central assistance," Siddaramaiah added.

Meanwhile, BJP members raised objections to the CM taking Nirmala Sitharaman's name as she is not a member of the Council, but the CM quipped that it's a fact that she is the Union Finance Minister.



Based on population, more is given to states like Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh, and we are punished even when we show better performance in tax collection
Siddaramaiah, Chief Minister

Govt orders probe even as Oppn seeks Chaluvaryaswamy's ouster

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

THE State Government will order a probe by a senior police officer to investigate the suicide attempt by KSRTC driver-cum-conductor HR Jagadish in Nagamangala allegedly depressed over being transferred from Nagamangala depot to Maddur depot.

The government will get the incident investigated by a senior officer, who will be assisted by transport department officers, Home Minister Dr G Parameshwara informed the Assembly on Thursday. He was responding to former chief minister and JDS leader HD Kumaraswamy's demand for a probe into the incident.

The findings of the probe will be placed before the Assembly, Parameshwara said.

This even as Opposition leaders from BJP and JDS demanded the removal of Agriculture Minister N Chaluvaryaswamy from the Cabinet as Jagadish had named the minister in a note.

Former CM Basavaraj Bommai said Jagadish consumed poison at his depot in Nagamangala of Mandya district due to harassment by officials and leaders. "It has been more than 24 hours... no FIR has been registered so far. What is



Bharatiya Janata Party legislators in a heated debate in the Legislative Assembly on Thursday | EXPRESS

the government and police doing? Are they trying to hide?" Kumaraswamy questioned.

"Even during our time, there were similar allegations against KS Eshwarappa who resigned. Then we conducted an inquiry after which he came out clean," Bommai said and demanded the minister's resignation. Irked by this, Congress MLAs slammed the BJP which led to chaos in the Assembly.

Kumaraswamy said with president and vice-president polls in the gram panchayats, political leaders are harassing the family members of panchayat members. "KSRTC employee Jagadish's wife is a panchayat member. This is why they are harassing him as they are seeking the support of his

wife in the polls. She wanted to become the GP president and hence the minister ordered for the transfer of her husband," he alleged.

Refuting the charges, Chaluvaryaswamy clarified that he has no role as he had not spoken to the KSRTC officers concerned or issued a note in that regard. "Kumaraswamy had tried to gain political mileage as he stopped the family from shifting the victim to a higher hospital in Mysuru and his party MLA Suresh Gowda's supporters also tried to stop the vehicle shifting the patient. Hence, the FIR should be filed against Kumaraswamy as it is a crime," the minister alleged.

Meanwhile, CM Siddaramaiah entered the House and shook hands with Chaluvarya-

swamy, which irked Kumaraswamy. As the situation turned tense with Kumaraswamy indulging in a verbal duel with Siddaramaiah and Chaluvaryaswamy, Speaker UT Khader adjourned the Assembly for 10 minutes. After the Speaker spoke to the members of the Ruling and Opposition benches, the government agreed for a probe. Meanwhile, Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy said the department normally will not transfer the drivers, conductors, and mechanics unless they request the same.

Even in the Council, BJP leader Srinivas Poojary raised the issue following which Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar promised action.

Min to KSRTC: Cancel Jagadish's transfer order

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Mysuru

AGRICULTURE Minister N Chaluvaryaswamy said that he has directed the KSRTC authorities to cancel the transfer order issued to bus driver-cum-conductor HR Jagadish.

Speaking to reporters in Mandya on Thursday, the minister said that whenever there is a change in government, there will be transfers of employees.

"It is a common activity which has happened even in previous governments. But JDS is unnecessarily politicising the issue," Chaluvaryaswamy, who is the Mandya district in-charge minister, said.

The minister said he has directed the KSRTC authorities to cancel the transfer order af-

ter Jagadish's brother-in-law spoke to him over phone.

"I had directed the authorities to conduct a probe into the allegations levelled against Jagadish and if he is found guilty, he can be transferred. But even before any investigation, Jagadish has taken a hasty decision. So the government cannot be held responsible," he added.

Reacting to JDS leader HD Kumaraswamy's demand for his removal from the Cabinet, Chaluvaryaswamy said that the former CM was unnecessarily politicising the issue.

Chaluvaryaswamy said that he has spoken to the driver's family and has directed the authorities to provide all necessary medical treatment.



JDS WORKERS PROTEST

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

MEANWHILE, JDS workers staged a protest at Nagamangala against the transfer of Jagadish. They laid siege to the bus depot and burnt tyres seeking Chaluvaryaswamy's resignation.

Depot manager Nagaraj said that the transfer order has been withdrawn and the department will meet Jagadish's medical

expenses. He clarified that the department has not received any complaint of misbehaviour against Jagadish.

Meanwhile, former CM HD Kumaraswamy, who visited the hospital, spoke to Jagadish's family members. Accusing the Congress government of indulging in vindictive politics, he demanded that Chaluvaryaswamy resign owning moral responsibility.

HDK DESPERATE WITHOUT POWER: SIDDU

CM Siddaramaiah on Thursday rubbished JDS leader HD Kumaraswamy's allegations of corruption in transfers and posting of officials. "He is desperate without power. Has he taken any allegations to logical end? They stand in the dark and throw stones and run away. There is no need to take them seriously," Siddaramaiah tweeted. Transfer of officials is a natural process in the administrative system and when a new government comes, it has to be done in the interest of the administration, the CM said. He slammed Kumaraswamy for making allegations against his son. "He imagines that my son is involved in corruption just because I am the CM. Can the same logic be applied to him and his family? Kumaraswamy's elder brother was a minister, now an MLA, his wife was an MLA, his father was a Prime Minister and his elder son is an MP. When Kumaraswamy was CM, were his family members also involved in corruption?" the CM questioned.

DAIVA KOLA NOT FOLK ART, NOT FOR SCHOOL STAGE

BJP members raised objections to the inclusion of Daiva Kola in 'Prathiba Karanji', an annual talent show put up by government schools. Raising the issue during zero hour on Thursday, former minister Sunil Kumar said Daiva Kola is not a performing art. To this, Primary and Secondary Education Minister Madhu Bangarappa gave his assurance that he would sort it out. Sunil Kumar said the Department of Public Instruction had issued a circular which included Daiva Kola in Prathiba Karanji. He pointed out that Devaraadhane or Daiva Kola in Dakshina Kannada region is a sacred activity and cannot be performed. "This is not a performing art or folk art form which students can perform on stage," he said. However, he said he is not against Prathiba Karanji, which showcases talents of schoolchildren.

BJP, CONG CLASH OVER MEDICAL COLLEGE

BJP and Congress members exchanged heated arguments over the Sri Madhusudan Sai Institute of Medical Sciences and Research, which was inaugurated by PM Modi a few months ago, but remains non-functional. The institution intends to start a free medical college at Muddenahalli, the birthplace of Sir M Visvesvaraya, in Chikkaballapura. Congress MLA TB Jayachandra raised the issue during zero hour, saying, "PM Modi inaugurated it in March 2023. This is the first of its kind which offers free medical courses. In the next 10 days, admissions to medical courses will begin, but the government has not given approval," he said. Former minister Dr CN Ashwath Narayan said, "The college authorities are only asking for permission, why has it not been given? Your government neither implements guarantee schemes nor gives permission for such noble places." Irked, DyCM DK Shivakumar said the building was inaugurated when BJP was in power. This led to more heated words. Medical Education Minister Dr Sharan Prakash Patil said, "I am getting it and will check the status," he said.



'DISNEYLAND' PARK PLAN AT KRS

Deputy CM DK Shivakumar said the government will be setting up a Disneyland-like park at KRS dam in Mandya under public-private partnership, at an estimated cost of Rs 1,425 crore. Clarifying that the project will not have any adverse effect on the dam, he said it is proposed to establish the park on 198 acres. "The project appraisal committee has been asked to submit the rapid environmental impact assessment report," he said, adding that the government has not entered into an agreement with any firm in this matter.

SPEAKING KANNADA AND SPEAKER'S KANNADA

BJP leader Basanagouda Yatnal demanded that a mobile application be developed that translates Speaker UT Khader's Kannada to "normal Kannada". Khader said whenever he makes mistakes in Kannada, Yatnal helps correct them, to which Yatnal said he is from Vijayapura and understands "Kannada spoken in North Karnataka. I also understand Mysuru Kannada and coastal Kannada. What I don't understand is Speaker's Kannada. Why don't we have an app that translates Speaker's Kannada which we can understand?" he said. Yatnal also pointed out that in the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, an application is used to translate Kannada to Hindi and vice-versa, so also with other languages. "If we can have a similar one here, it will help us," he added.

POLICY TO GIVE SOLAR-POWERED PUMPSSETS TO RYOTS

The State Government has plans to bring out a policy to give solar-powered pumpssets to farmers with subsidies from the State and Union Governments. This is in the wake of frequent power cuts in rural areas. Many legislators raised the issue of farmers whose illegal power connections for pumpssets have not been regularised despite payment of fees. Congress MLA TB Jayachandra favoured giving solar pumpssets to farmers. Shirahatti MLA Chandru Lamani said though 4,500 farmers in his constituency had paid fees, their illegal power connections have not been regularised. Energy Minister KJ George said regularisation of illegal power connections of farmers started in 2005. Now, the prescribed fee is Rs 23,000. It is difficult to regularise such connections. George said a solar pumpset costs around Rs 4.5 lakh. "To help farmers, 40% subsidy can be given by the Centre and 30% by the state government, which will amount to Rs 3.5 lakh. For the remaining, we will help farmers to get loans from banks."

LEGISLATORS DISCUSS WATER CRISIS, DROUGHT

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

LEGISLATORS cutting across party lines raised the issue of drinking water crisis and drought in parts of Karnataka, in the Assembly on Thursday.

They demanded that the State Government declare Karnataka drought-hit.

Raising the issue during the

zero hour, Afzalpur MLA Al-lamaprabhu Patil (Congress) said that the Bhima river has dried up. "We normally get 74 mm of rain by this time, but this year we have received only 24 mm. By this time, our farmers would have completed sowing in 8.87 lakh hectares, but so far, they have covered only 25,000 hectares. Farmers are in distress. I demand that the State Government declare

drought," he added.

Aland MLA BR Patil said there is a severe issue of drinking water. JDS MLA Sharan Gouda Kandukur from Yadgir said, "Less rain might lead to farmers ending their life."

Former CM and BJP MLA Basavaraj Bommai said that the southwest monsoon this year was delayed by 10 days. "There is a severe shortage of water, especially

in districts of North Karnataka," he said, urging the State Government not to prepare an action plan based on the met department's forecast. He demanded the government to announce Rs 50 lakh per taluk to cater to drinking water needs.

In his reply, Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda said, "There has been good rains in many parts of the state for the

last 10 days. Even the weathermen have predicted good rains for the next 10 days. We will wait for one more week and decide on drought-hit taluks," he said.

At present, 193 villages are being supplied with tanker water and 339 with borewell, he said. "Officials have been given directives to ensure that water is supplied within 24 hours if drinking water issue arises," he added.

Govt to fill vacant posts in a phased manner

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

CHIEF Minister Siddaramaiah said there was a vacancy of over 2.55 lakh posts in various departments and the government will fill them in a phased manner.

Replying to a question raised by MLC HS Gopinath, Siddaramaiah said the government had 43 departments for which there was total sanctioned strength of 7,72,025, in which 5,16,105 were filled. "Currently, the vacancy is 2,55,920. As promised in the manifesto, we will fill these posts in a phased manner. However, the government has outsourced 75,474 posts against the vacant positions," he added.

To another question raised by BJP MLC YA Narayanas-

wamy about salary revision for government employees, the CM said the 7th Pay Commission, in May, had sought six months time to submit its report and the government will decide on revising the salaries based on the report and the financial condition of the state.

Old Pension Scheme

DyCM DK Shivakumar informed the Council that the government has formed a committee headed by an Additional Chief Secretary to submit a report on bringing back the Old Pension Scheme (OPS). Replying to a calling attention motion, the DyCM said the government empathises with the employees and even it was mentioned in the party manifesto that New Pension Scheme will be withdrawn.

RUDRAPPA LAMANI ELECTED AS DY SPEAKER UNOPPOSED



Bengaluru: Senior Congress MLA Rudrappa Lamani was elected unopposed as Deputy Speaker for the Assembly on Thursday. After taking charge, Lamani said that he will work taking into confidence all MLAs, ministers and Opposition legislators. Addressing the new Deputy Speaker, Deputy CM DK Shivakumar said, "All I want to say is nothing is permanent in politics... politics is an art of possibilities. One can become a minister, CM and even Speaker or Deputy Speaker. I appeal to the new Deputy Speaker to allow new MLAs to speak in the House. You have the power to create new leaders." Shivakumar said Lamani wanted to become a minister.

Chandrayaan-3 launch on July 14; likely moon-landing on Aug 23,24

‘Several simulations had been conducted to address issues faced during Chandrayaan-2’

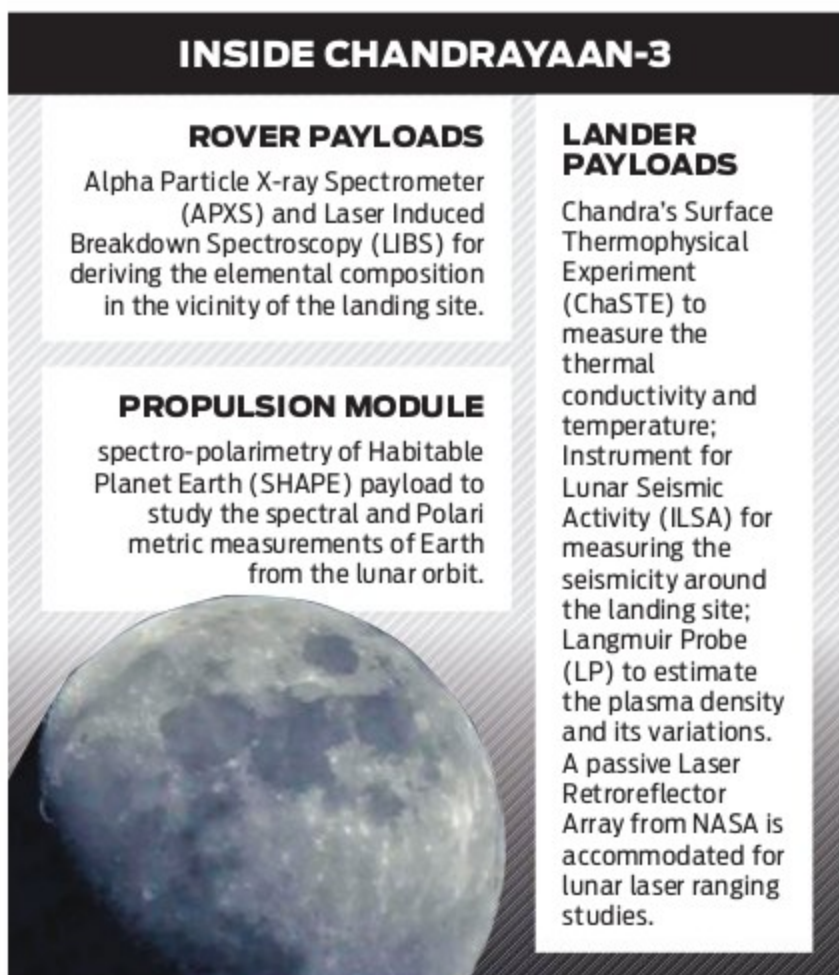
EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

INDIA'S upcoming lunar mission Chandrayaan-3 will be launched on July 14, at 2.35pm from Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota, announced the Indian Space Research Organisation in a tweet on Thursday. The date was later confirmed by Secretary of the Department of Space and ISRO Chairman S Somnath at a press briefing on the sidelines of the G20 Fourth Space Economy Leaders Meeting in Bengaluru.

“Chandrayaan-3 is expected to soft land at the moon's south pole; the area which will have sunlight, between August 23 and 24. The sunlight has to fall on the solar panels of the spacecraft. If we miss the two dates then the landing will be postponed to September around the time when there is sunlight on the moon,” he explained.

The mission life of the lander is one lunar day, which is equal to 14 Earth days. “There is sunlight on the moon for 14-15 days. We have planned the soft landing based on when there is sunrise on the Moon,” he said. The Chandrayaan-3 mission is carrying scientific instruments to study the thermophysical properties of the lunar regolith, lunar seismicity, lunar surface plasma environment and elemental composition in the vicinity of the landing site.

While the scope of these scientific instruments on the lander and the rover would fit in the theme of “Science of the Moon”, another experimental



INSIDE CHANDRAYAAN-3

ROVER PAYLOADS

Alpha Particle X-ray Spectrometer (APXS) and Laser Induced Breakdown Spectroscopy (LIBS) for deriving the elemental composition in the vicinity of the landing site.

PROPULSION MODULE

spectro-polarimetry of Habitable Planet Earth (SHAPE) payload to study the spectral and Polarimetric measurements of Earth from the lunar orbit.

LANDER PAYLOADS

Chandra's Surface Thermophysical Experiment (ChaSTE) to measure the thermal conductivity and temperature; Instrument for Lunar Seismic Activity (ILSA) for measuring the seismicity around the landing site; Langmuir Probe (LP) to estimate the plasma density and its variations. A passive Laser Retroreflector Array from NASA is accommodated for lunar laser ranging studies.

instrument will study the spectro-polarimetric signatures of the Earth from the lunar orbit, which would fit in the theme of “Science from the Moon”.

Somnath expressed confidence in a successful lunar soft-landing and said several simulations had been conducted to address the issues encountered during Chandrayaan-2 which failed to soft-land on the lunar surface on September 7, 2019. “The issues have been rectified in Chandrayaan-3 based on

data obtained from the simulations from Chandrayaan-2. In fact, because of the data received, we have expanded the area of soft-landing. We have been working for the last two years on Chandrayaan-3 and are quite confident about it. But anything unexpected can happen,” he added.

Speaking about the measures taken to strengthen Chandrayaan3, Somnath said they have increased the tank capacity and are utilizing sophisti-

ARTEMIS ACCORD

Regarding the Artemis Accords, Somnath said the discussions are being held at the highest level. The US government has announced that NASA will launch an Indian astronaut to the Space Station by 2024, and India will be part of the Artemis Accords. India subsequently signed the Accords, becoming an official member of the global agreement centered around lunar exploration.

cated gear. “We also have a higher quantity of propellants this time around,” he said.

Chandrayaan-3 is a follow-on mission to Chandrayaan-2, to demonstrate end-to-end capability in safe landing and roving on the lunar surface.

The spacecraft will be launched by LVM3 (Geostationary Satellite Launch Vehicle Mark-III), which is a composite of three modules: propulsion, lander, and rover. The lander will soft-land at a specified lunar site and deploy the rover which will carry out the in-situ chemical analysis of the lunar surface during the course of its mobility. The propulsion module, which has Spectro-polarimetry of Habitable Planet Earth payload to study the spectral and polarimetric measurements of earth from the lunar orbit, will carry the lander and rover configuration till 100 km of lunar orbit and separate it. Apart from this, the propulsion module also has one scientific payload as a value addition which will be operated post separation of the lander module.



A view of Mulki Bappanadu temple that was flooded | EXPRESS

Rain ravages DK: Houses damaged, relief centres set up

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Mangaluru

OWING to incessant rains and a red alert in the district, the DC has declared holiday for all schools and colleges today. Degree colleges will have online classes for students who are unable to attend classes. The intense downpour washed away a man into a stream at Honnedi in Aleetti village in Sullia taluk on Thursday as heavy rain continued in Dakshina Kannada disrupting normal life in some places. The incident happened when the victim Narayan, 45, a labourer, was returning home. Rescue operations have been launched to trace him.

The famous Bappanadu Durgaparameshwari temple at Mulki near Mangaluru was inundated and people were seen offering puja by wading through knee-deep water. The road towards the temple was

flooded. Many houses in the temple vicinity also bore the brunt of the floods.

Kumaradhara river near Kukke Subramanya temple is in full spate and the ‘snaana ghatta’ (bathing area) of the temple was also submerged. Devotees visiting the temple have been restricted from entering the snaana ghatta. The IMD has issued a red alert for Friday.

Meanwhile, the district administration opened four relief centres at Hosabettu school in Mangaluru, Bantwal IB and at government school at Manapady and Kinigoli CMC Sabha Bhavan at Mulki, where 44 people are sheltered.

In the last 24 hours, two houses were damaged while seven houses were severely damaged. As many as 201 electric poles and 6 transformers were damaged in the last 24 hours.

Third rain death in DK

A farmer drowned in a lake in Moodbidri. Niranjan Mudiya, 42, was on his way to his arecanut farm when he slipped and drowned. This is the third rain related death in Dakshina Kannada in last 48 hours.

Schools shut today in Kodagu, Udipi

MADIKERI / UDUPI: The water level across River Cauvery in Bhagamandala is gradually rising as the temple town recorded a rainfall of 120 mm in the last 24 hours. Cauvery which was parched is slowly rejuvenating after the town received a rainfall of 18.6 mm. Sources confirmed that the water level in the river has increased by 2.5 metre. As a precautionary measure, the Kodagu district administration has declared a holiday for schools and colleges on Friday. Udipi DC Kurma Rao on Thursday declared holiday for anganwadis, schools and PU colleges across the district today, owing to heavy rains predicted by the weatherman. Bailakere, Matadabettu and Bannanje areas in Udipi city were inundated, forcing about 80 people to relocate to safer places on Thursday. Affected residents in Bailakere were rehabilitated at a hotel in the Car Parking area near Sri Krishna Mutt and those from Matadabettu and Bannanje were rehabilitated at Sri Mahalingeshwara temple in Bannanje.

Water level rises in reservoirs after continuous rain

SHIVAMOGGA: Heavy showers battering catchment area of Tungva and Linganamakki reservoirs led to the rise in the water levels in both the reservoirs. Following the increase in the water inflow into Tungva reservoir at Gajanur, the authorities have opened two crest gates through which about 7,000 cusecs water was released into the river.

Water gushing out of Tungva reservoir at Gajanur village of Shivamogga taluk on Thursday | SHIVAMOGGA NANDAN

LS poll victory of OPS' son declared null and void

R SIVAKUMAR @ Chennai

THE Madras High Court on Thursday declared null and void the victory of P Ravindranath Kumar, son of deposed AIADMK leader O Panneerselvam, from Theni Lok Sabha constituency in the parliamentary election held in 2019 on the grounds of suppression of facts on assets and liabilities.

Justice SS Sundar passed the order on a petition filed by P Milany, a local DMK functionary. “... this court, from the facts as seen from the documents and evidence, finds that the Returning Officer has not conducted the scrutiny of nominations strictly in terms of Section 36 of the RP Act, 1951, and instructions given under the Hand Book. She has shown her partisan attitude in favour of third respondent (Ravindranath) at the time of scrutiny. As a consequence, this court holds that the nomination of third respondent has been improperly accepted by the officer,” the judge said in his order.

Citing SC orders, the right to know about the contestant who is going to represent the people will not be effective unless the information about his assets and liabilities from all sources is known to the electors.

KCR reaches out to unhappy Cong leaders

IREDDY SRINIVAS REDDY
@ Hyderabad

THE Telangana Congress leadership, basking in the afterglow of a successful July 2 public meeting at Khammam addressed by party leader Rahul Gandhi, received a jolt on Thursday in the form of reports that the Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao has got

in touch with some important leaders of the grand old party and is set to put in motion his own version of “Operation Akarsh” from July 18.

Having got a whiff of what is happening in the BRS camp, the Congress leadership has begun the process of identifying the potential chinks in the party's armour. The BRS wants to steal the thunder

from Congress after it had landed Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy and Jupally Krishna Rao by beckoning the unhappy leaders in the Congress to don pink robes. They are targeting leaders who are uncomfortable to work with certain senior leaders in the party. A source in the BRS said two important leaders in Congress are likely to defect to the pink party.

Anna Bhagya: Cash transfer starts

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

THE State Government on Thursday issued GO on the transfer of money instead of additional 5 kgs of rice under the Anna Bhagya scheme. All those who got food grains under the PDS for the last three months will be eligible for the cash transfers.

The GO stated that the cash transfer of Rs 170 per person at the rate of Rs 34/kg has been started. Cash will be not transferred to Antyodaya Anna Yojana card holders families with three or less than three members as they get 35 kg of rice every month. However, if such families have more than three persons, they will get the cash. If they have four members in the family, they will get Rs 170 and the same calculation will apply for additional members in the family.

The GO stated Aadhaar seeding to ration cards has been done for 1,28,13,048 out of 1,28,16,253 cards and only 3016 are pending.

The government order also stated that in the next two months, it will stop the mobile OTP system instead of biometric details for providing food grains at PDS shops.

ELSEWHERE IN SOUTH

‘Dharani Files’ coming soon, says Revanth

HYDERABAD: TPCC chief A Revanth Reddy announced on Thursday that he would soon be making a series of PowerPoint presentations titled ‘Dharani Files’ to expose the “loot” being perpetrated through the revenue portal launched by the State government. Revanth alleged that the “Panama Papers” expose revealed that sensitive personal data of citizens has gone into the hands of foreign companies and criminals based in tax havens like the British Islands. He also alleged that Gade Sridhar Raju, a close friend of “the prince” (alluding to IT Minister KT Rama Rao), has been “holding the keys to the Dharani portal,” where owners were being created for lakhs of acres of government land in the prohibited list and ownership rights transferred surreptitiously.

Guv trying to shield ex-ministers of AIADMK, charges law minister

CHENNAI: The Raj Bhavan on Thursday clarified its position with regard to the state govt's requests for sanctions from Governor RN Ravi to prosecute four former ministers of the AIADMK government. But law minister S Regupathy charged that the governor is trying to protect the former ministers by giving evasive replies to the state government. With regard to C Vijaya Bhaskar and B Venka Ramana, Raj Bhavan said the cases have been investigated by the CBI and are under legal examination. To this, the minister said, “The governor is trying to protect the two former ministers of the AIADMK government by saying that the cases are being investigated by the CBI.

Central Mine Planning & Design Institute Ltd.
(A Subsidiary of Coal India Limited)
Gondwana place, Kanke Road, Ranchi - 834 031, JHARKHAND, India

NOTICE

“All the tenders issued by CIL and its Subsidiaries for procurement of Goods, Works and Services are available on websites of Coal India Ltd. www.coalindia.in/ respective Subsidiary Company (CMPDI, www.cmpdi.co.in/). CIL e-procurement portal <https://coalindiatenders.nic.in/> and Central Public Procurement Portal <https://eprocure.gov.in/>. In addition, procurement is also done through GeM portal <https://gem.gov.in/>”

PUBLIC NOTICE

General Public is informed that, Sri B V Jayaramachar S/o Sri Vikraman, residing at No.718, 1st Floor, Lakshmi Devi Nilaya, Vinayaka Nagar, Annasandrapalya, VTC, Vimanapura post, Bangalore, has lost original property document i.e., registered sale deed dated 16.01.1989, registered as document no. 13529/1988-89, Volume 3051 pages 9-12, in Book no.1 in the Office of the SRO - Bangalore South Taluk, pertaining to property bearing house on site no. 25 and 26 in HASB Khata no. 718, situated at Vibhutipura village, Syed block 57 Cross Ward No.20, Annasandrapalya, Vimanapura Post, HAL, Krishnarajapura hobli, earlier Bangalore South Taluk presently Bangalore East Taluk, measuring east to west 40 feet and north to south 50 feet. A Complaint is lodged in Crime Branch Bangalore City Police on dated 04.07.2023. Finders may return the same to the above said Police Station or contact at the below address within 07 days from this publication.

Mr. Prashanth Kumar X. BA LLB
“LEX FACTUM”
Advocates and Legal Consultants,
No.365, First Floor, 57° C Cross,
Near Bhasiyam Circle,
Rajajinagar 37° Block, Bangalore-10

PUBLIC NOTICE

My clients MR. MANOHAR BORANA & MR. MANISH BORANA, both S/o. Mr. Narsa Ram Borana, Residing at Borana Bhawan, Near Sadi Pole, Gaurav Path, Kasturba Colony, Shida Mata Road, Jalore, Rajasthan intend to purchase the below mentioned Schedule Property from MR. ANANTHA RAMAN RANGARAJAN, S/o. Mr. P.J. Rangarajan, In view of the above, any body who has any manner of right or interest on the Schedule Property or any objections, in whatsoever manner for the purchase, may file their objections in writing with documentary proof before the undersigned within 10 days from the date of publication of this notice, and if the undersigned does not receive any objections from whomsoever in whatsoever manner, then it shall be presumed that the Schedule Property is free from all sort of encumbrances, Court Cases, claims, mortgages, DTD, attachments, and obligations and my client shall go on with the purchase.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY
All that piece and parcel of immovable Property bearing Khata No.365 and 366, BBMP Khata No.365/1P in converted Survey No.131/1, wide conversion Order No. 6 BDS/ALN(E)S/R/2/2003-04, Dated:09/05/2003, issued by the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, Bangalore, Situated at Horamavu Village, Krishnarajapura Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, erstwhile Bangalore South Taluk, Now Coming under the Jurisdiction of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Bangalore, Measuring East to West: 20 Feet and North to South: 40 Feet, and portion of Property No.2 Measuring East to West: 20 Feet and North to South: 40 Feet, both totally measuring 1600 Square Feet, and bounded on the:
East by : Remaining Land in Survey No.131/1 in Portion of Site No.1,
West by : Remaining Land in Survey No.131/1 in Portion of Site No.2,
North by : Private Property,
South by : Road.

CVS MANI & ASSOCIATES, Advocates
#91/1, Spandya Varadava, 2nd Floor,
Kaggadasara Road, C.V.Raman Nagar,
Bangalore - 560093,
DATE: 06/03/2023, Place : Bangalore

Quote Express
NEVER COMPLAIN AND
NEVER EXPLAIN
SHEKHAR SINGH GOSWAMI

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client has entered into an agreement to purchase the Schedule property from the owner M/s Warm Forgings Pvt Ltd, a company incorporated under the companies Act, having its registered office at Plot No. SP 238 (B & C), Industrial Area, Kharani (Bhivdi Extn.), Bhiwadi, Alwar Rajasthan-301019, represented by its Director Mr.Amit Rajput. Apart from the said owner if any other persons have any manner of right, title and or interest or demand or claim or charge or lien over the schedule property, they are hereby requested to file their objections to this sale transaction, in writing along with the photocopies of the document on which they are basing their claim, with the undersigned within 10 days from the date of publication of this notice. Objectors' filed thereafter will not be binding on my client and my client will proceed to purchase the schedule property as if there are not claimants/objectors.

Schedule Property
All that part and parcel of the property bearing KADB Plot No.11-D and 11-E, measuring 7965 Square Meters, in Sy No.85-Part, situated at Hoskote Industrial Area, within the Village limits of Chokkiahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Hoskote Taluk, Hoskote, Bangalore District PIN-560 114 together with building constructed thereon and plant and machinery, furniture etc., Bounded on: On the East by: KADB Road, On the West by: Plot No.12-K(g)-12-J(g) & 12-I(g), On the North by: Plot No.11-E (Part), On the South by: Plot No.11-C.

Mohamed Sadiq B.A
KV Legal
Advocates & Legal Consultants
No.FF47, 1st Floor, Gold Tower, No.50,
Residency Road, Bangalore 560 025
sadiq@kvlegal.com
Mob: 9448557169, 9482083786
Bangalore Dated: 07.07.2023

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to notify the General Public that my client Mr.MOINUDDIN KHAN S/o Mr.Mohiyuddin Khan, Aged about 45 years, Residing at No.26/1, Khans Residency, 2nd Cross, 1st Main, Bismillah Masjid Road, Bismillahnagar, Bangalore- 560 029, he is intending to purchase the property described in the schedule below, from the present owner Sri.Chowri Raju S/o Late Thomas @ Papanna, Residing at Begur Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore - 560 068, he is in peaceful possession and enjoyment of the schedule property and my Client is intending to purchase the Schedule Property from the Present owner.

Any person's having objection/s or claims, with respect to sale and transfer of the schedule property, may with documentary evidence, lodge their objections/claims within Seven Days from the date of this notice with the undersigned, failing which, my client will proceed to purchase the schedule property there after no further claims will be entertained and or the same will be deemed to have been waived or abandoned.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY
All that portion of the Property bearing Survey No.351, Measuring 13.08 Guntas, Out of total Measuring 0.26 Guntas and 0.02 Guntas of karab Land, Situated at Begur Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore District, and bounded on,
East by : Sy.No.352 and Road
West by : Sy.No.352, 350 and Road,
North by : Sy.No.352,
South by : Sy.No.350.

Contact: JSR Associates
H.R.Jayashekara Reddy, Advocate
No.348, 6th Main, 15th A Cross, 6th Sector, HSR Layout, Bangalore.
Mob.9880715022/9880280786



GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,
SAMBALPUR (R&B) DIVISION-I, SAMBALPUR
e-procurement Notice
BID IDENTIFICATION No : SE/ R&B/ SBP / 12 / 2023-24
E-mail - exeengsb@rediffmail.com
Order No. 4162 Dtd.04.07.2023
B-430
1. The Superintending Engineer, Sambalpur (R&B) Division No-I, Sambalpur on behalf of Governor of Odisha, invites Percentage Rate bids in Double Cover System in ONLINE MODE for construction of Civil/Electrical / P.H. Work as detailed in the DTCN from the eligible Class of Contractors.
2. No. of work : 01 (One)
3. Tender Cost :Rs.10,000/- (On Line)
4. Class of Contractor : “B” & “A” Class Contractor
5. Date and time Available in Web site & receipt of Bids: 11.00 Hrs 11.07.2023 to 11:00 Hrs of 18.07.2023
6. Date of Opening of Tender: 18.07.2023 at 12:00 Hrs.
7. The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the Web Site.
8. Any Corrigendum / Addendum will be displayed in the website www.tendersodisha.gov.in only.
Sd/- Superintending Engineer
Sambalpur R&B Division - I
OIPR- 34112/11/0007/2324



The Brihanmumbai Electric Supply & Transport Undertaking
(OF THE BRIHANMUMBAI MAHANAGARPALIKA)

TENDER NOTICE
E-tender is invited for the supply of following item.
(1) 76922 - Purchase of New Tubeless Radial Tyre Size 295/80R 22.5 16PR,
Re – invited e-tenders
(2) 76660, (3) 76492.

Note : For more details, log on to website <https://mahatenders.gov.in>
PRO/SMMO/49/2023
GENERAL MANAGER



Canara Bank
(A Government of India Undertaking)

South End Road Branch, No.96, South End Road, Bengaluru-560004

POSSESSION NOTICE
[See Rule 8(1) of SARFAESI RULES] Section 13(4) For Immovable Property

Whereas: The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Canara Bank, South End Road Branch, No.96, South End Road, Bengaluru-560004, under Securitisation And Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Act 54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (2) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 has issued a Demand Notices calling upon the Borrowers/ Mortgagees/Guarantors to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The Borrowers/Guarantors/Mortgagees having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers/Mortgagees/Guarantors and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on below mentioned dates.

The Borrowers/Guarantors/Mortgagees in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Canara Bank, for an amount interest and Other Charges mentioned below.

The Borrowers/Guarantors/Mortgagees attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

1. Name and Address of the Borrowers/Guarantors/Mortgagees : (1) Shri.Shivalingappa R S/o Late Sri. Rachaiah, Site No. 209, Sy.No. 32/2, Suraksha Residential Welfare Society Layout, Beguru Village & Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk-560068.

Total amount mentioned in the notice : Rs. 18,90,260/- (Rupees Eighteen Lakhs Ninety Thousand Two Hundred Sixty Only) as on 03.07.2023 together with further interest and incidental expenses and costs.

Demand Notice Dated : 28.12.2022 Possession Notice Date: 03.07.2023

Description of the Immovable Properties : All that piece and parcel of the Residential Site demarcated house property bearing No. 209, Khata No. 32/2, Suraksha Residential Welfare Society Layout, Yelenahalli, Beguru Village, Beguru Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, measuring East to West 30 feet and North to South 20 feet totally measuring 600 Square feet, together with constructed building and Site bounded on : East by : Road, West by: Private Property, North by : Site No. 210, South by : Site No. 208.

2. Name and Address of the Borrowers/Guarantors/Mortgagees : (1) Shri. Ganesh G.A., Site No. 135, Sy.No. 32/2, Beguru Village & Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk-560068

Total amount mentioned in the notice : Rs. 3,84,716.07 (Rupees Three Lakhs Eighty Four Thousand Seven Hundred Sixteen and Seven Paise Only) as on 03.07.2023 Together with further interest and incidental expenses and costs.

Demand Notice Dated : 06.08.2022 Possession Notice Date: 03.07.2023

Description of the Immovable Properties : All that piece and parcel of the Residential Site demarcated house property bearing No. 135, Khata No. 32/2, Beguru Village, Beguru Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, measuring East to West 30 feet and North to South 20 feet, totally measuring 600 Square feet, together with constructed building and Site bounded on : East by : Property No. 134, West by : Road, North by : Private Property, South by : Property No. 136.

Date : 03.07.2023 Sd/-Authorized Officer
Place : Bengaluru Canara Bank

Your Guide to Spicy Living **INDULGE** Start Page with THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

NEW BJP CHIEFS MEAN INTRIGUE IN T'GANA, STRATEGIC IN ANDHRA

Strategic, intriguing, and conservative—these words summarise the BJP's choice of leaders for Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Punjab and Jharkhand. It picked Jat leader Sunil Jakhar, a former Congress state president, to reprise the same role for it in Punjab, evidently hoping to gain ground and repair the damage caused to it during the agitation against the farm laws. In Jharkhand, Babulal Marandi, former chief minister and tribal leader, was a safe bet after the BJP burnt its fingers with the non-tribal leader Raghubar Das in the tribal-dominated state.

The appointments in Telangana and AP, however, are fascinating. Naming Union Minister Kishan Reddy instead of the successful Bandi Sanjay Kumar in Telangana is a tough call. The latter had energised the party and delivered results, including in the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation elections. A Backward Caste leader, he is a true blue Hindutva poster boy. But Sanjay faced opposition from leaders who migrated to the BJP from other parties, which forced the leadership to fall back on Kishan, who had earlier served as the state president in undivided AP and Telangana. Reddy's tenure was unremarkable, and expectations of him working wonders in the next few months before the state goes to polls are foolhardy. The question then is: What's the BJP game plan? It seems to have reconciled to keeping the flock together for the Lok Sabha polls without losing leaders to the Congress after calculating that even under Sanjay, it may not win the Assembly elections.

The most strategic announcement is that of Daggubati Purandeswari, the late NTR's daughter, as the Andhra state president. She brings credibility, which the faceless BJP needs badly in AP. But that is just one dimension. TDP chief N Chandrababu Naidu sidelined her and her husband after he wrested power from her father. The Daggubati family has, at best, a strained relationship with Naidu. Purandeswari had at one time actively supported her brother Hari Krishna when he tried to float a party after being humiliated by Naidu. She brings with her vast experience and political heft thanks to the backing of the powerful Kamma community, which is also the very foundation of the TDP. She could rightfully claim her father's legacy as well. If one looks at Amit Shah's meetings with superstar NTR junior, the grandson of NTR with whom Purandeswari has an excellent rapport, the logic behind her appointment becomes clear: Forget about alliance, she could well be Naidu's nemesis.

In the demesne of artificial intelligence (AI), nations and people find themselves in perplexing and uncharted domains. As Open AI academics appositely articulated, we are building the plane as it is rolling down the runway.

An analogy is equally prophetic for the entire arena of artificial intelligence. A realm that had beheld an incredible evolution since 2017 when Google Brain published a new deep learning approach entitled the Transformer.

Open AI consequently leveraged the Transformer architecture to design GPT (Generative Pre-Trained Transformer) models, utilising reinforcement learning through human feedback techniques (RLHF). These humongous language simulations have left the world holding its collective breath. Artificial intelligence-driven chatbots, image generators and search engines have swiftly taken over our lives and are technologically transforming ever so rapidly, even today.

Scientists and innovators who work on the cutting edge of technology have called for caution and circumspection or even a temporary hiatus due to the perceived perilous consequences of the unregulated proliferation of Artificial Intelligence.

The European Union, China and the US are all clambering to police this domain, with diverse bodies proposing their unique templates for its governance. The Draft AI Regulation Act of the EU, China's draft AI regulation and the AI bill conceptualised by the Biden Government are a few of the ingenious proposals to govern AI.

Other proposals include the OECD AI principles, US Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer's holistic plan for AI regulation, and Rishi Sunak's aspiration to position Britain as a global vortex for AI through Britain's AI summit, among others. While no one may have a solution, the world seems dogged in its determination to try and police AI as expeditiously as possible. Three significant issues arise as a consequence of these regulatory efforts:

First, these regulations, whether the Chinese draft AI regulation or the EU's AI Act, are strictly enforced from the standpoint of risks associated with AI. The digital ministers of the G-7 countries also endorsed a risk-based approach similar to the EU legislation. China additionally is also regulating to ensure that it does not lose control over information. For developing countries, however, an ostensibly benevolent though onerous regulation could stymie Research and Development and innovation in this

Instead of placing guardrails against AI, India must develop an AI model that fosters innovation and empowers citizens

INDIA'S ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE DILEMMAS



undulating and unexplored lea. There is the twin imperative of getting people out of poverty while embracing the latest and best AI that the world offers. Else we risk potential monopolisation and exploitation by global tech conglomerates.

The second issue is how AI would be regulated. We are presently seeing several legal frames trying to converge on a common set of principles to regulate a technology that is changing by the day. Washington and Brussels are trying to lay the underpinning for global governance of AI through the bilateral Trade and Technology Council. The United States is also throwing its weight behind the effort to develop a global framework. The concern, however, is that technology is moving faster than regulation; a novel example of this is that when the EU draft AI Act was designed, there was no generative AI or large language models (LLMs).

Now they have to go back to the drawing table to draft a law that incorporates harms associated with LLMs.

Third, the breadth of US-China contentiousness adds another layer of complexity to AI regulation. Economic and technological decoupling, along with AI's increasing role in decision-making processes within war rooms and diplomatic chanceries around the world, accentuates the strategic implications of AI.

AI is already omnipresent in situation rooms in the US, with entities like Rhombus Power accurately predicting political instability in Sri Lanka, Chinese activities in Kiribati and the Solomon Islands, and even the Russian invasion of Ukraine well in advance. (They used satellite data, missile sites and local business transactions of

PAPUA NEW GUINEA: A NEW STAGE FOR THE US-CHINA RIVALRY

In May, President Joe Biden's visit to the Pacific island state of Papua New Guinea (PNG) was cancelled owing to domestic political issues in the US taking pride of place, with the debt limit talks deepening the divide between the Republicans and Democrats. But the Biden administration was focused on displaying a critical show of strength in its foreign policy, particularly on the Indo-Pacific stage. What was supposed to be the first-ever state visit of a serving United States president led to much anticipation in PNG, including declaring the day a national holiday. But the cancellation of Biden's visit underscored how the interstate system remains deeply divided between great powers and small states.

The cancellation also impacted the proposed Quad Summit scheduled to take place in Sydney, but the event was hurriedly rescheduled and held in Hiroshima, Japan, where President Biden was already present for the G7 meeting. While media reports focused on the cancellation, a visit to PNG did take place, but it was US Secretary of State Antony Blinken who travelled to the island state instead.

The focus on the US' growing defence co-operation with the small island is the critical factor that emerges from the visit. Two agreements were signed: the New Defense Cooperation Agreement (DCA) and an Agreement Concerning Counter Illicit Transnational Maritime Activity Operations. This shows how major powers are shifting their priorities to gain greater access to the smaller states of the Indo-Pacific region. Over the past few years, the nature of the US-China rivalry has acquired sharper dimensions, and the geopolitical shifts in the Indo-Pacific region have played a critical role in shaping the regional matrix.

The signing of the two agreements is a significant push by the United States to unveil another facet of its strategic shift towards the Indo-Pacific region, thrusting the US-China rivalry into the most vulnerable part of the Pacific. The states in the South Pacific remain susceptible to the effects of this rivalry as their economic dependence is on the region's bigger economies. Moreover, on issues such as climate change and medical and health infrastructure, they need to catch up with the other regional states in the Indo-Pacific, exposing their weaknesses in the face of concerted major power rivalry.

The two recent agreements have also led to several domestic tensions within PNG, especially in terms of the privileges that it



ASIAN AXIS

affords to the United States, which is seen as hitting at the foundation of the country's sovereignty. The political opposition within the country has been critical of the agreement, particularly because of two factors: First, there are allegations that the agreement provides US personnel legal immunity within the country. Second, that it allows unrestricted access to US vessels across the country and in the immediate territorial waters, thereby impacting the country's sovereign rights vis-à-vis the already asymmetrical relations between the US and PNG.



The states in the South Pacific remain susceptible to the effects of the United States-China rivalry as their economic dependence is on the region's bigger economies

However, PNG's current leadership has defended the right of the country to enter into military cooperation, clearly alluding to the fact that the PNG already has an active Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) that acts as the foundation on which the current Defence Cooperation Agreement (DCA) has been built. The US State Department also categorically reaffirms this position, stating that the current deal is based on the existing SOFA and will act as the foundation for the US and PNG to build future ties in the region.

One of the biggest advantages of this agreement is that for PNG, it brings in a massive amount of money—to the tune of nearly \$45 million—to address some

of the core non-traditional security challenges that Papua New Guinea faces. These include improving provisions for tackling climate change, dealing with transnational crimes and issues related to public health infrastructure.

The second agreement, highlighting the maritime part, will also bolster the island nation's defences vis-à-vis issues like illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing, a major menace in the region. Regarding illegal fishing, the most implicated countries are China and Taiwan, with the victims being regional states in Southeast Asia and the Pacific Islands.

PNG also has an expansive Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), nearly 2.4 million sq km, making this zone vulnerable to encroachments by neighbouring states. This vulnerability was exposed when Chinese ships exploring marine resources entered PNG's EEZ in April 2019. This was just around the period when the United States and Australia had announced the decision to upgrade the existing infrastructure on Manus island, a geopolitically important area in terms of the power play in the region.

From around 2018, the presence of Chinese vessels in the EEZ of Micronesian states such as Palau and the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) has often occurred without respect for the tenets of international law in the maritime zones. These Chinese encroachments have been critical triggers that have also impacted how smaller island states are reassessing their priorities to employ clear hedging strategies and therefore derive the best outcome vis-à-vis the major players. China's foray into the South Pacific region also indicates the vulnerabilities of what has come to be called the 'Second Island Chain', which falls beyond the immediate scope of Chinese interests in the South China Sea. All this being said, the importance of Papua New Guinea is unlikely to wane: as one of Australia's immediate northern neighbours, PNG will be seen as a crucial hub in any US-Australia strategy for ensuring regional stability in the Indo-Pacific.

(shankari@mail.jnu.ac.in)

PUT THE KIBOSH ON CHILD MALNUTRITION FAST

Health is a crucial indicator of a country's development, and widespread malnutrition among Indian children is a potent factor denting claims of India's overall progress. The Global Hunger Index (GHI) 2022, based on cases of stunting (retarded growth), wasting (too thin for the height and failure to gain weight), and deaths among Indian children, placed the country at a poor 107th rank among 121 countries. As per the GHI, India's child wasting rate is a shocking 19.3%, the highest in the world. Wasting is caused by inadequate calorie intake, malabsorption of nutrients, altered metabolic rate and hormone deficiency. As per the Centre's submission before the Supreme Court last September, 69% of India's under-five child mortality cases in 2022 were due to malnutrition.

Last month, the Union finance ministry claimed that with India's GDP crossing the \$3.75-trillion mark, the country is now the fifth-largest economy in the world. The disturbing dichotomy crops up while trying to digest that the fifth-largest economy occupies the 107th rank in GHI. This shows how India has failed to adequately deal with malnutrition among children, indicating the next generation will have poor health.

The Central and state governments face a challenging task. It is not just hunger they have to tackle, but they also need to ensure every child gets proper nutrition—right from when the child is conceived, which means covering every expectant mother as well. Against this backdrop, former World Health Organisation Chief Scientist Dr Soumya Swaminathan's call to emphasise on nutrition literacy in Indian schools gains significance. She has stressed the need for a farming system for nutrition (FSN) intervention. This system integrates crop, livestock and allied agricultural practices and nutrition literacy as a package, providing a holistic approach to tackle malnutrition among Indian children on a war footing. It needs to be highlighted—and understood—that malnutrition from an acute deficiency of vitamins, minerals, proteins and carbohydrates among children would ultimately impact not just the health of the next generation of Indians but also the economy. Action is needed now to root out malnutrition among children. Failing on this front would be nothing but a self-inflicted disaster.

QUICK TAKE

PARTICULATE PARADISE

adakh is getting E-buses to help it turn carbon-neutral. What about Kashmir, fast becoming a polluted paradise? The verdant valley is lovely for the eyes but dangerous for your throats and lungs as cancer and pulmonary diseases rise. Unregulated tourist vehicles pollute towns in summer. Biomass burning, coal-fired heaters and factory pollutants accumulate at lower atmospheric levels in winter. Since it's a valley, the polluted air remains stagnant, unable to disperse. The government must ensure the transition to E-vehicles in Kashmir. Controlled LPG prices and regular power supply can help residents avoid using fossil fuels as heat sources in long winters.

MAIL BAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Caste discrimination

The audacity of a man to urinate on the face of another human being is highly condemnable and shocking. This nonsense of upper and lower castes should be rooted out from the minds of people. Those who still think they are 'lower' than some should be educated on their rights. People should respect fellow humans.

Elizabeth Koshy, Pathanamthitta

Abolishing HUF

This is with reference to the column *Hindu Undivided family a loophole in uniformity* (July 6). The article is totally one-sided, finding all faults with the HUF. The writer does not even touch upon the gross injustice that prevails in Muslim personal law. HUF should be abolished, but why did he leave out the other regressive customs? What does he mean by "regressive uniformity" and "progressive diversity"? As a lawyer, Mr Arora should have been specific in his suggestions.

Radhakrishnan K, email

NCP drama

This is with reference to *At 32, Ajit has better numbers* (July 6). High political drama in NCP, which split after Ajit Pawar walked away and joined the Maharashtra government, appears to be a repeat of what Ekanath Shinde did when Uddhav Thackeray was sidelined. Now there is a battle for the NCP symbol as well.

H R Satyanarayana, Mysuru

Political ageism

It is not proper on Ajit Pawar's part to ask Sharad Pawar, "You are 83, aren't you going to stop?" Some are blessed with physical and mental capabilities irrespective of age. They stop when they cannot cope with the task. We should respect elders.

Dr J Bhagyalakshmi, email

Khalistani activities

This is with reference to *Appalling Canadian apathy to anti-India Khalistani activities* (July 6). Even though Canada-based Khalistanis have been increasing their activities, that government doesn't appear to take this seriously and hunt them down. Instead of just lip service, India wants Canada to decisively act against Khalistanis. India cannot allow Canadian soil to be used for the separatists' anti-India agenda.

R Sampath, Chennai

Assistant professors

Ref: *No need for a PhD to become an assistant professor from now on* (July 6). This will be a boon for many aspiring educationists who, due to financial constraints, are unable to study further. Moreover, time will be saved, making the youth financially independent at the right juncture.

Abhilasha Gupta, Mohali



Shivraj Singh Chouhan @ChouhanShivraj
—Shivraj Singh Chouhan is in MP, so the public is God. Atrocity with anyone will not be tolerated. The respect of every citizen of the state is my respect.



Mayawati @Mayawati
MP CM calling the victim of urine scandal in Sidhi district to Bhopal, Atrocity with anyone will not be tolerated. The respect of every citizen of the state is my respect.



Salman Khurshid @salman7khurshid
Are we seeking man-woman equality in UCC for trying to obliterate unobjectionable differences between religions?

The 1937 Act divided India. Will UCC integrate it?

AFTER the 1937 Act was passed, the Muslim League emerged as a Muslim mass party and began challenging the unchallenged Gandhi-led Congress, which had till then total mobilising power over the Indian masses. The 1937 Act triggered powerful forces of Islamic religious and communal passions outside the Congress influence. As the British and the League had intended, the Act helped the massive shift of the Muslims from the Gandhi-led Congress. The shift was so huge and so swift that even the League, which had till then thought of a federal government for Hindus and Muslims with separation of powers, suddenly shifted gear and asked for partition. The 1937 Act was passed in October 1937 and within just two-and-a-half years, in March 1940, Jinnah passed the Lahore partition resolution.

Article 44 as reaction to the 1937 Act

The UCC will not be written on a clean slate, it will be overwritten on the 1937 Shariat Act. What divided the Hindus and Muslim relations by a jhatka and eventually India itself, was the 1937 Act. The partition could not bridge the divide, and the continuance of the 1937 Act post Independence continues to make the Hindu-Muslim relations drift towards greater split. The UCC is an attempt to arrest that drift. The BJP's response to the Congress caused that the UCC divides is, "Look at the Constitution, it says pass the UCC." This is a poor response given the seriousness of the UCC to arrest the drift caused by the 1937 Act. The BJP's articulators' understanding of the UCC doesn't seem to go to the deep, sordid historical origins of the UCC. They do not seem to ask themselves the most obvious question — why did the Founding Fathers of the Constitution engage in strenuous discourse on the need for a Uniform Civil Code for India, which was after all

within the legislative power of Parliament. Had the 1937 Act not been passed and subsisted, the Constituent Assembly would not have wasted its time on the UCC. They could not allow a separate religious law, that too a law that divided India, to subsist. Any keen student of the history of the idea of the UCC in India would have known that the very thought of the UCC in the Constituent Assembly was clearly to undo the 1937 Shariat Act. The trigger for Article 44 mandating UCC under the Directive Principles was the 1937 Act, which divided India. The Founding Fathers did not want to leave it to the political discretion of the law-makers later to pass or not to pass the UCC, but made it their

If the BJP can't tell the nation about the historical background of the UCC, which is the 1937 Act, why won't detractors ask about the need for a UCC now when there are scores of other problems facing the nation

constitutional duty. The BJP should be pointing to the 1937 Act as the cause that split India and that was why the Founding Fathers had to mandate the UCC as a stitch on the split. The BJP should be charging those who ruled the country for 70 years with having kept the split and wound open, which made Hindu-Muslim relations deteriorate instead of improve in secular India. If the BJP can't tell the nation about the historical background of the UCC, which is the 1937 Act, why will the detractors of the UCC not ask what is the need for a Uniform Civil Code now when there are scores of other problems facing the nation?

Ambedkar's challenge to Muslim League

The man who fought the case for the UCC in the Constituent Assembly was Dr B R Ambedkar. He lambasted the League members who argued in the Constituent Assembly against

a common civil code saying Sharia was immutable for Muslims. He challenged them to deny that up to 1935, the North-West Frontier Province followed not the Sharia Law, but the Hindu Law, and up to 1937 in the rest of India, the United Provinces, the Central Provinces and Bombay, Muslims were largely governed by the Hindu Law in matters of succession. He cited that the Muslims in North Malabar were till that day following the Hindu Marumakkathayam (matrilinal) law. He concluded that no Muslim could say that the framers of the idea of a common civil code had done great violence to the sentiments of the Muslim community. Here are the details of the common bases of civil code among Hindus and Muslims which Dr Ambedkar spoke about.

Common civil law base of Hindu-Muslim society till October 1937

Go back to 1937. From Kerala to UP, from Bengal to North-West Province, whether it was the Hindu-ruled Ajmer-Merwara or Muslim ruled Awad (Ayodhya), the rules of Inheritance, Succession, Adoption, or Wills were common for Hindus and Muslims. See the list.

● **In Kerala**, the local Hindu law of Marumakkathayam prevailed over the Sharia among Moplah Muslims. In the succession to Tarawad in Malabar in Kerala, in Muslim families that followed Hindu customs, the Sharia was not applied.

● **In Punjab and the North-Western Province**, now part of Pakistan, local Hindu customs prevailed over the Sharia. In Punjab, the heart of today's Pakistan, the Hindu custom of allowing widows life estate in property prevailed over the Sharia that gave her an absolute share. The customary law of the East and West Punjab did not recognise the Sharia on Iddat, which provided for a divorced wife's maintenance only for three months.

● **In Oudh (Ayodhya)** — Muslim-ruled province till 1856 — the custom among the Muslims



S GURUMURTHY
Editor, Thuglak, and commentator on economic and political affairs

SECOND OF TWO-PART SERIES

for the widows to take a life interest as per Hindu law prevailed over the Sharia that gave her specific, absolute share. In **East and West Punjab**, the custom of adoption prevalent among the Muslims that was contrary to the Sharia, was recognised by courts. The custom of writing Wills among the Muslims in **East and West Punjab**, which was contrary to the Sharia, too, was recognised by courts. In **East Punjab**, customs having the force of law were expressly allowed to prevail over the Sharia.

● **The Oudh Estates Act** passed by Muslim rulers expressly exempted the Muslims from the application of the Sharia. **The Nawab of Oudh** legislated local customs to prevail over the Sharia, as in **East Punjab**. It was identical in Ajmer-Merwara also. In **Madhya Pradesh**, too, local customs conflicting with the Sharia prevailed. Kambojis of Malerkotla state who were predominantly agricultural, were governed by local custom and not the Sharia in matters of inheritance.

● Where a large section of people converted from Hinduism to Islam, like the **Kutchi Memons** and the **Khojas**, they continued to be governed by the Hindu laws. The same principle of Hindu law, as in the case of Memons and the Khojas, was applied to the **Sunni Bohras** and **Molisalam Girsiasias** in Gujarat. **Halal Memons**, like the Kutchi Memons, were governed by Hindu law.

● **In Madras province**, courts refused to apply the Sharia principle that mandated the

Muslims to sell their properties only to Muslims. In the **Presidency towns of Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay**, local Hindu customs prevailed over the Shariat. In the **mofussil areas of Madras**, local customs and usages were allowed to prevail over the Shariat.

An interesting tailpiece. Despite the Shariat Act 1937, the Muslims of Cooch Behar were governed only by the Hindu law till, believe it, as **recently as July 1, 1980**. Only from that date did the government of West Bengal notify the application of the Shariat Act.

Can anyone deny that the aim of the 1937 Act was to cut off the umbilical links that existed between the Hindus and the converts?

Economic integration, social diversity

It was this commonality between Hindus and converted Muslims at the local levels that made them feel like each other was the target of the 1937 Act. The Islamic Sharia consists of two broad aspects. One, the religious and cultural part; and two, the economic part. That part of Sharia which consisted of marriage, divorce and other cultural and social aspects was followed by the converted Muslims even before 1937. So, cultural diversity that enabled the converts to follow their own religious rules existed even before 1937. But the second part, the economic part, consisted of property rights and inheritance rules. As in almost the whole of India, local Hindu customs and usage laws of property and property rights were common to Hindus and Muslims till 1937, which acted as a powerful social and economic link and kept the converted Muslims integrated with their ancestral Hindu society. The idea behind the 1937 Act besides giving separate and formal communal and religious identity to the Muslims, was psychologically to snap the common rules of property and property rights. The strategy behind the Shariat Act 1937 was to break that societal bond. The

1937 Act turned two brothers with differences into enemies without a common base in just under a decade. See the most powerful example of how this transformation worked.

1937 Act turned brothers into enemies

Jinnah belonged to the Khoja Muslim community, also known as Ismailis. Who were Khojas? Even as late as just a few decades before Jinnah sounded the Islamic partition bugle, the Holy Book of the Khojas, was not the Quran but *Dashavatara*. In *Dashavatara*, nine Avatars up to Krishna were common between Khoja Muslims and Hindus. Only the 10th Avatar is different. The tenth Avatar for the Khojas was Ali, the son-in-law

In his speech in the Constituent Assembly, Ambedkar challenged the Muslim League to deny that up to 1935, the North-West Frontier Province followed not the Sharia Law, but the Hindu Law

of Prophet Mohammed. In their work, *The Aga Khan Case: Religion and Identity in Colonial India* [p55] Purohit, Teena (2001) citing the famous Aga Khan succession case [1866] in the Mumbai High Court confirm that fact. In *Dashavatara*, part of the Ismaili devotional hymns known as *Ginans* was the work of Pir Sadruddin, founder of the Khojas and descendant of Prophet's son-in-law, Ali. This was cited as Aga Khan's previous connection with the Prophet through Ali Pir Sadruddin. As Khojas converted, not as individuals, but as a community, it was the Hindu law of succession that applied to them, not the Sharia. Jinnah, who was born within 10 years of the Bombay High Court judgment that Khojas did not have Quran as their Holy Text, might not have read the Quran but perhaps only *Dashavatara* as he grew up. He himself followed only the Hindu law till 1937. He ensured even in the 1937 Act he

would have the rights of a Hindu to adopt and also to write a Will. And yet he turned the bitterest enemy of the Hindus and unleashed a bloodbath when he called for direct action in 1946 to achieve partition. Like Jinnah, later the grandson of Aga Khan [Aga Khan III] played a prominent part in the Muslim League and in the creation of Pakistan. Like in the case of Khojas, Kutchi Memon Muslims who, too, were similarly converted as a group, the Hindu law, not the Islamic one, applied. Tiger Memon and Yakub Memon, whose parents and grandparents would have only followed the Hindu laws, bombed and killed as many as 900 innocents and maimed 2000 in 1993. The trigger for this massive shift to hostility and enmity was the 1937 Shariat Act.

The UCC was conceptualised by the Founding Fathers to ensure that post Independence, Hindu-Muslim relations are not ruined like in the pre-partition days by the continuation of the 1937 Act. Contrary to the constitutional mandate, the 1937 law has been allowed to fester for too long. The law that divided Bharat into India and Pakistan and which the Constitution makers wanted undone, is now being glorified by pseudo seculars as integral to the religious rights of Muslims. This is utter perversion. The UCC is an attempt — a belated one though — to right that historic wrong. It calls for deep national introspection dating back from 1937. Undoubtedly the 1937 Act divided India. Will the UCC integrate it?

CORRECTION

A sentence in the column, '1937 Shariat Act — for Muslims or for Jinnah, Zamindars?' published on July 6, had a typographical error under the subhead, Hindu law smuggled into Sharia. The correct sentence is: "Second, it excluded the agricultural land — the most valuable asset then and even now — and made the laws of Hindu rishis continue to apply to govern the Muslims." The error is regretted. — Editor

Khalistan rallies: India pins safety hopes on hosts

Canada, US, UK, Australia promise security to diplomatic staff in various Indian missions

YESHI SELI @ New Delhi

THE Indian government will be on tenterhooks on July 8, the day Khalistani supporters have called for rallies across Canada, US, UK and Australia. It is not just the rallies that are of concern to the government, but also the photographs of Indian diplomats that have been displayed as potential targets.

India has been particularly concerned about the incidents that have been allowed to happen in Canada — from vandalising the consulates to taking out tableaux hailing the assassination of former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. The threat to Indian diplomats and the rally dates on posters first appeared in Canada and followed all over.

"Posters inciting violence against our diplomats are unacceptable," said Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Arindam Bagchi on Thursday. External Affairs Minister, Dr Jaishankar, too has often repeated that vote bank politics is one of the possible reasons for Canada to permit such things to take place in their soil.

Meanwhile, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau on Thursday was on the defensive. "We have always taken serious action against terrorism and we always will. We have an extremely diverse country and freedom of expression is something we have. We always make sure we are pushing back against violence and extremism in all forms," Trudeau said.

Earlier on Thursday, British Foreign Secretary James Cleverly assured that they would do everything to protect the Indian High Commission in London. "Any direct attacks on the Indian High Commission in London are completely unacceptable. We have made it clear to India's High Commissioner to London, Vikram Doraiswami, and the Government of India that the safety of the staff at the High Commission is paramount," said Cleverly. Britain is not taking any chances after the Indian flag was brought down at the Indian High Commission in London earlier.

In the US, where the Indian consulate at San Francisco was attempted to be burnt, the US government was quick to react and oppose it.

"The US strongly condemns the reported vandalism and attempted arson against the Indian consulate in San Francisco on Saturday. Vandalism or violence against diplomatic facilities or foreign diplomats in the US is a criminal offence," said US State Department spokesperson Matthew Miller.

India has been assured of support in Australia too. Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese has assured India of strict action against Khalistanis. Under the Geneva Convention, all diplomatic missions and their staff have to be taken care of by the host country. India is optimistic the Khalistani supporters are reigned in and do not resort to violence.

SC collegium recommends CJs for 7 high courts

SHRUTI KAKKAR @ New Delhi

A SUPREME Court collegium on Wednesday recommended new chief justices to seven major high courts across the country. The recommendations have been made to the Centre to fast-track the appointments to the existing and future vacancies that may arise in Kerala, Orissa, Manipur, Andhra Pradesh, Bombay, Telangana and Gujarat high courts.

To fulfil the vacancy that may arise pursuant to the elevation of Kerala High Court Chief Justice S Venkatanarayana Bhatti as a Supreme Court judge, Justice Ashish J Desai was recommended for the post. Justice Alok Aradhe was suggested as the Chief Justice of Telangana High Court in case of the elevation of the current Chief Justice Ujjal Bhuyan as an SC judge. Justice Dhiraj Singh Thakur was named for Andhra Pradesh High Court.

With Orissa High Court

ALSO IN TOP COURT

UGC told to specify steps taken to curb caste bias

The apex court on Thursday asked the University Grants Commission to specify the steps it has taken and proposed to take, in order to provide non-discriminatory and enabling environment for SC and ST students in institutions of higher learning. The court was dealing with petitions seeking guidelines for creating an enabling environment for SC/ST students.

To hear plea on ordinance on July 10

The Supreme Court will hear on Monday Delhi Government's petition challenging the constitutionality of the May 19 ordinance on control of services. A bench of justices, including the Chief Justice of India, posted the matter for consideration after senior advocate Abhishek Singhvi mentioned the matter seeking urgent hearing.

Chief Justice S Muralidhar set to retire, the collegium has recommended Justice Subhas Talapatra as his replacement.

Delhi High Court judge Justice Siddharth Mridul has been recommended for the Manipur High Court and Justice Sunita

Agarwal of the Allahabad High Court has been recommended for the Gujarat High Court. If appointed, Justice Agarwal would become the only woman high court chief justice as currently there are no women chief justices in any high court.

Punjab Regiment to attend Bastille Day parade in Paris

MAYANK SINGH @ New Delhi

THE Punjab Regiment of the Indian Army will march past the Avenue des Champs-Élysées in Paris on July 14. The regiment will be part of the 269-member tri-services contingent of the Indian Armed Forces who would march alongside their French counterparts on the National Day of France. The contingents left for France on Thursday.

The Indian Army contingent of 77 marching personnel and 38 band members are being led by Captain Aman Jagtap.

The Army contingent is represented by the Punjab Regiment, which is one of the oldest regiments of the Indian Army. The troops of the regiment have participated in both the world wars as well as post-Independence operations. In World War I, they were awarded 18 Battle and Theatre Honours.

The gallant soldiers fought in Mesopotamia, Gallipoli, Palestine, Egypt, China, Hong Kong, Damascus and France. In France, they took part in an offensive near Neuve Chapelle in September 1915 earning the battle honours 'Loos' and 'France and Flanders'. In World War II, they earned 16 battle honours and 14 theatre honours.

India, Japan agree to raise trade volume

YESHI SELI @ New Delhi

YOSHIIHIDE Suga, the former Prime Minister of Japan, is leading a 100-member trade delegation to India to explore opportunities for increased investment with target of 5 trillion yen by 2027.

Yoshihide Suga, along with a group of Japanese parliamentarians from the Ganesh Group and CEOs from the Japanese Business Federation (Keidanren), met Prime Minister Modi on Thursday. "We had a fruitful discussion on strengthening our special strategic and global partnership in various areas, including parliamentary exchanges, investment, economic ties, people-to-people connections, tourism and skill development," said PM Modi.

Suga expressed optimism about increasing investment in



India, considering it is now the world's fifth-largest economy, growing rapidly at a rate of 7.2 per cent.

"In Japan, both the public and private sectors are fully committed to strengthening relations with India. Last year, the government of Japan set a target of investing 5 trillion yen in India over the next five years. I have witnessed India's vibrancy and felt the momentum of its economy," said Suga, who also serves as the President of the

Japan-India Association.

India is enthusiastic about its growing partnership with Japan and believes it will reap significant benefits from it.

"As India enters its next phase of economic growth, improving agricultural productivity becomes a crucial aspect, and the use of technology can bring the necessary breakthrough. Japan is a leading country in various areas of agriculture, including precision farming, seed research, and development, the introduction of new crop protection molecules, drones, and more. This presents a win-win opportunity for Japanese firms to tap into the vast Indian market by introducing cutting-edge products and services tailored for Indian farmers," chairman and managing director of DCM Shriram, Ajay S Shriram, told this newspaper.

Woman shot dead as Manipur continues to simmer

30-member delegation from Nagaland visits strife-torn state

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR @Guwahati

A woman was shot dead by an unidentified gunman in Manipur on Thursday as the ethnic violence in the state continues. The incident occurred near Sishu Niketan School at Mayaikoibi on the outskirts of state capital Imphal. The schools in the state reopened on Wednesday after two months for Classes 1-8.

The police and a forensic team rushed to the site and recovered the body. The Indigenous Tribal Leaders' Forum (ITLF) condemned the killing. It identified the deceased as Donngaihching.

"A Kuki-Zo tribal woman who did not leave Imphal despite the ethnic cleansing in Manipur's capital because of a mental illness, was shot dead on Thursday morning in the heart of the city. The victim, Donngaihching, was killed by Meitei gunmen near Sishu Niketan school in Kwaikethel, Imphal West," the ITLF said in a statement.

The tribal organisation said the woman used to spend her days walking the streets aimlessly and lived in a small shed near a church in Lamphel area, adding the shed was built by sympathisers while fellow tribals used to give her food.

"The ITLF vehemently re-



Security forces keeping a vigil in Manipur on Tuesday | PTI

'Not a suicide bomber'

The ITLF vehemently refuted the false allegations on social media by Meitei propagandists that she was a suicide bomber. "The disinformation campaign by the state-sponsored IT cell is becoming flimsier every day and does not spare even the mentally-challenged," the ITLF said.

futes the false allegations on social media by Meitei propagandists that she was a suicide bomber. The disinformation campaign by the state-sponsored IT cell is becoming flimsier every day and does not spare even the mentally-challenged," the statement said.

It alleged that no tribals, including women and children, were safe from the "genocidal pogrom of the majority community". The ITLF urged the Central government to "relieve the incapable state government" and impose President's rule immediately.

Meanwhile, as the violence refuses to die down, a 30-member delegation from adjoining Nagaland visited Manipur on Thursday. In a joint statement, the leaders of Forum for Naga Reconciliation, Nagaland Joint Christian Forum and Fellowship of Naga Baptist Churches said they undertook the journey to offer friendship.

SC refuses to entertain plea against net ban

SHRUTI KAKKAR @New Delhi

THE Supreme Court on Thursday refused to entertain a plea challenging the indefinite internet ban that has been imposed in Manipur since May 3 due to the outbreak of violence as a result of clashes.

On being informed that the Manipur HC is already seized of five pleas and that the matter was listed before the HC bench on July 6, 2023 a bench of CJI DY Chandrachud, Justices PS Narasimha and Manoj Mishra directed the petitioner Advocate Chongtham Victor Singh and businessman Mayengbam James to approach the HC.

The plea stated that the internet shut down order was firstly issued on May 3 and was repeated indefinitely. "The repeated internet ban by Manipur govt has not only resulted in state's residents experiencing feelings of fear, anxiety, helplessness but have also not been able to communicate with their loved ones," the plea said. Seeking restoration of internet in all districts the plea states that the notifications on ban does not serve a legitimate goal.

Escaped Covid, to be beheaded back home

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Guwahati

LITTLE would have David Thiek known what awaited him back home in Manipur when he returned from Mumbai after the Covid pandemic broke out in 2020. After last Sunday at midnight, the 31-year-old was beheaded, allegedly by a riotous mob at his Lanza village in the Kuki-majority Churachandpur district when he was guarding his house amid an arson attack.

The attack followed killings of three village volunteers by unidentified gunmen at Khoijumantabi village in the Meitei-majority Bishnupur district in the vicinity. No arrest has been made so far in connection with the two incidents.

On Wednesday, the Lamka Resurgent Squad in Churachandpur organised a massive rally against David's beheading. The protestors came out wearing black and camouflage uniforms and shouted slogans demanding justice for him.

The rally began at a local ground in the town and culmi-

nated at the 'Wall of Remembrance' site in Tuiboung. Earlier, several Kuki-Zo tribal organisations condemned the killing.

The locals remembered David as one who was brave. He loved to play football and spend time with his friends. David lost his mother when he was a five-year-old. Since his father is physically-challenged, Thiek was taken care of by his uncle. He went to school, but dropped out after Class 8 due to financial difficulties, locals said. He picked up odd jobs to make a living before working as a waiter in Mumbai for about eight years.

The locals said he had been guarding his house ever since the ethnic clashes broke out on May 3 after a "tribal solidarity march" which was organised by a students' organisation to oppose the move for the inclusion of majority Meitei community in the Scheduled Tribes list. "He had plans to go back to Mumbai but got stuck at home due to the violence," a local said.



Shinde, Uddhav trade charges over crossover bid in numbers game

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @Mumbai

As the NCP bickered over its true form and shape, speculation mounted over the plans of Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde. Amid reports of the CM stepping down to pave the way for his deputy Ajit Pawar taking over as the CM, Shinde on Thursday clarified that as long as he has the blessings of PM Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah, he will continue in his post. Shinde termed his resignation reports as "rumours."

"There is no such plan to step down," Shinde said. He had a meeting with his elected representatives at Chief Minister's official residence Varsha on Wednesday.

"I want to clarify that with Ajit Pawar joining hands with us, our government has grown stronger. Our three-party MLA strength is more than 200 in the House of 288. There is no threat to our government. No leader is unhappy and all have faith. Our government is getting stronger. We have the huge support of PM Modi



and Amit Shah," said Shinde. Earlier on Wednesday, Maharashtra BJP chief Chandrashekhar Bawankule also said that opposition parties were creating confusion over the chief ministership of Eknath Shinde. "Shinde will continue as the CM of the state," he said.

The Uddhav Thackeray faction leader Sanjay Raut said that Shinde could be replaced in the coming days in the wake of NCP leader Ajit Pawar and eight other MLAs joining the NDA government.

"The chief minister of Maharashtra may be changed anytime soon," Raut claimed. Sources said some of the Shiv Sena MLAs (Shinde faction) have extended an olive branch to Uddhav, urging him to do 'ghar wapasi' (homecoming).

"It is true that some of Sena (Shinde) MLAs have approached Uddhav Thackeray, saying they never spoke derogatory words against Uddhav or Aaditya. We may have committed some mistakes but the leadership forgave us," said a Shiv Sena (UBT) leader.

Ashok Gehlot summoned by Delhi court in defamation case

JAISON WILSON @New Delhi

DELHI's Rouse Avenue Court on Thursday issued summons to Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot in a criminal defamation case filed by Union Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat over the veteran Congress leader's remarks related to alleged multi-crore Sanjeevani Cooperative Society scam.

Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Harjeet Singh Jaspal of the special court, who deals with cases of MPs and MLAs, asked Gehlot to appear before the court in the national capital on August 7, noting "sufficient grounds" to summon him under Section 500 (deals with defamation) of the Indian Penal Code.

The allegations prima facie seem to be defamatory and appear to be intending to harm the reputation of the complainant, the court said.

As per the case, Chief Minister Gehlot had alleged that not only Shekhawat, who is also the BJP's Lok Sabha Member from Jodhpur, but his family members were also involved in the Sanjeevani scam.

After Delhi meet, Cong leaders vow to put up united fight in Raj

PREETHA NAIR @New Delhi

THE Congress high command seems to have got Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot and his former deputy Sachin Pilot to strike a truce by taking cognizance of three demands made by the latter including an inquiry into corruption charges against the Vasundhara Raj-led government in the state previously.

The leadership are also learnt to have issued a stern warning to the warring leaders that there was no place for indiscipline and that anyone speaking outside the party forum will be firmly dealt with.

The development happened at a meeting held on Thursday which was attended by Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge, senior leader Rahul Gandhi, general secretary in-charge of organisation KC Venugopal, former deputy CM Sachin Pilot and several other leaders from the state. Gehlot attended the meeting through video conferencing.

Speaking to the media after the meeting, Pilot said that the party has taken cognizance of his demands and assured action on the issues. "I have raised three important issues — a probe into the corruption



cases against the previous BJP government, reforms in the State Public Service Commission, and compensation to students affected by the recent examination paper leaks.

The party has taken note of it. The government is looking at these issues with seriousness and will take action," he said. Pilot said that he has fulfilled whatever role was given to him by the party in the past and will continue to do that.

"I will fulfil whatever role the Congress president, Rahul Gandhi, and the party offer for me," he said. "There has been a meaningful discussion for the upcoming elections in Rajasthan," he said.

Referring to the paper leak and issue of the constitution of

the Rajasthan Public Service Commission, AICC in-charge Rajasthan Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa said that a strong and transparent law was being enacted in the state and the legislation was being brought in the next session of the Rajasthan assembly.

Briefing the media, Venugopal said that the party leaders resolved to fight the election together as the party had strong credentials in the state. When asked about the CM candidate of the party, Venugopal said, "Our tradition is that we never announce the chief ministerial candidate. But we will fight together in the elections. Our government is doing good work and it will give us results," he said.

You have blood on your hands: Bengal Gov pins violence on poll panel chief

PRANAB MONDAL @Kolkata

AMID violence in West Bengal ahead of the panchayat elections on July 8, governor C V Ananda Bose on Thursday lambasted the State Election Commissioner (SEC) Rajiva Sinha, stating, "All the waters in the Holy Ganges cannot wash away the blood in your hands. (sic)"

Holding Sinha responsible for the deaths during pre-poll violence that began after the date for the rural polls was announced on June 9, the constitutional head of the state said, "I appointed you but you disappointed the people. My constitutional 'appointee', you have failed in your duty. You have failed the people. My constitutional 'appointee', you have failed the people. You are responsible for the corpses that fell on the streets."

Hitting back on Bose, the second-in-command in the ruling Trinamool Congress and chief minister Mamata Banerjee's nephew Abhishek Banerjee accused the governor of trying to secure dividend of a political party in the upcoming pancha-



yat polls and acting on instructions from Delhi. On the last day of nomination on June 15 by visiting Bhangar in South 24 Parganas after three persons were killed in the violence between the ruling TMC and its oppositions.

Standing on the spot, Bose had said, "Winning election depends on count of votes, not dead bodies." A total of 15 persons died in violence since June 9.

"There is something called Rajdharma and that is what you are supposed to do. There is something called Rajdharma, that is what your Rajyapal (governor) is supposed to do. In the Mahabharata war, Yudhishthira's chariot was always three inches above ground. His single misinformation about Ashwathama's death conveyed to one who trusted in him, brought that chariot on the ground henceforth. Mr. SEC, don't you learn a lesson from this?"

Bengal governor had first swung into action on the last day of nomination on June 15 by visiting Bhangar in South 24 Parganas after three persons were killed in the violence between the ruling TMC and its oppositions.

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C V Ananda Bose, Bengal Governor

BJP, SAD rule out re-alliance for 2024 LS polls

HARPREET BAJWA @Chandigarh

AMID a reunion buzz involving the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) and the BJP ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha polls, the saffron party's Punjab in-charge Vijay Rupani on Thursday said his party would fight the parliamentary elections on its own, without an alliance. SAD has also ruled out the possibility of an alliance with the BJP.

SAD, in alliance with Mayawati's BSP, fought the 2022 Assembly polls and ended up frustratingly at number three after AAP and Congress. The BJP and SAD ended their three-decade-old alliance in 2020 in the wake of farm laws that were later junked.

Punjab BJP in-charge Vijay Rupani was in Amritsar on Thursday to pay obeisance at Golden Temple along with new Punjab BJP chief Sunil Jakhar. "The BJP in Punjab will fight the 2024 Lok Sabha elections on its own without forming an alliance with any other party. We will contest the elections alone in the state and win all 13 Lok Sabha seats. The party will contest the parliamentary elections under the leadership of



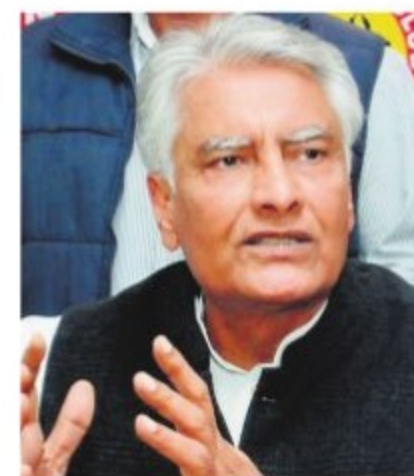
(Left) SAD chief Sukhbir Singh Badal; Punjab BJP chief Sunil Jakhar | EXPRESS

Prime Minister Modi and form the next government at the Centre," Rupani said.

Asked about the speculation that his party could have an alliance with SAD yet again, he said, "I have already said that we will contest alone. It is up to you to interpret my statement."

Newly appointed Punjab BJP chief Sunil Jakhar said the party leadership would take a call on any alliance as he would seek feedback from BJP workers if any realignment was acceptable to them.

Meanwhile, SAD chief Sukh-



bir Singh Badal met senior leaders of his party at his residence in Chandigarh on Wednesday when he was advised to be cautious and examine all aspects before taking any decision. "We must also keep in mind the impact of any decision we make on all Punjabis, especially Sikhs," said a senior SAD leader.

Sources said SAD leaders asked Sukhbir to seek clarity from the BJP on the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) and its impact on the rights of minorities, especially the Sikhs. He should also demand the release of Sikh

detainees lodged in various jails in the country.

However, SAD chief Sukhbir Singh Badal said that there was no question of an alliance with the BJP as the BSP is the SAD ally.

SAD spokesperson Daljeet Singh Cheema said, "There is no discussion on our alliance with the BJP. Our alliance with the BSP is intact."

On the other hand, the BSP seemed to be in a dilemma. BSP's Punjab chief Jasvir Garhi said he has been enquiring about the reports of a possible SAD-BJP alliance from the senior SAD leadership, but they all have been feigning ignorance.

SAD lost the 2017 and 2022 assembly elections. Currently, the party has only three MLAs in the assembly, while the BJP has two legislators. Both the parties were in alliance for more than three decades.

The SAD had walked out of the NDA in September 2020 following the farmers' protests against three Central controversial farm laws, which were later repealed. The three laws had led to a huge protest in Punjab.



JAIPUR DIARY

RAJESH ASNANI

Our correspondent in Jaipur

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Shekhawat's comment sparks speculation

A video has landed Union Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat in a row. While coming out of a recent BJP meeting at Sawai Madhopur, he was asked about the Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project (ERCP) which is crucial for providing water to 14 districts in the state but is getting delayed due to lack of Centre's support. In response, taking the name of Leader of Opposition Rajendra Rathore, Shekhawat remarked, "Make Rajendra ji's rule, I will also give the '46,000 crore needed for ERCP project.' This has given rise to talk that Shekhawat has declared Rathore as the BJP's face for CM in Rajasthan.



Delhi summons to Raje gives grist to rumour mill

The sudden cancellation of former CM Vasundhara Raje's trip to Kota on Thursday led to much speculation. Party insiders say the Central leadership suddenly called her to Delhi for a meeting. Several leaders, including former MLA from Kota North and pro-Vasundhara MLA Prahlad Gurjar had held a big rally in Kota on July 2. This rally, incidentally, got no support from the BJP and even state president CP Joshi did not speak about it. Now, the question is whether Raje was called to Delhi for a dressing down from top brass or to be given a new role in view of the forthcoming elections.

Govt aid for organ transplant patients

The Ashok Gehlot government has come up with patient-friendly guidelines under the Chiranjeevi Health Scheme for those needing organ transplants. Under these, patients can get organ transplants done for free at any hospital even outside Rajasthan. In addition, patients and one attendant will be reimbursed upto '1 lakh for air tickets in case they need to travel outside the state for organ transplant or cochlear implants. In special cases, 50% of all expenses will be paid as advance for serious patients needing organ transplants. This is likely to be a huge relief for countless families in Rajasthan who are in need of transplants.

Can current bull-run take Nifty past 20,000 levels?

Nifty50 touches an intraday high of 19,512 before closing at 19,497

ARSHAD KHAN @ New Delhi

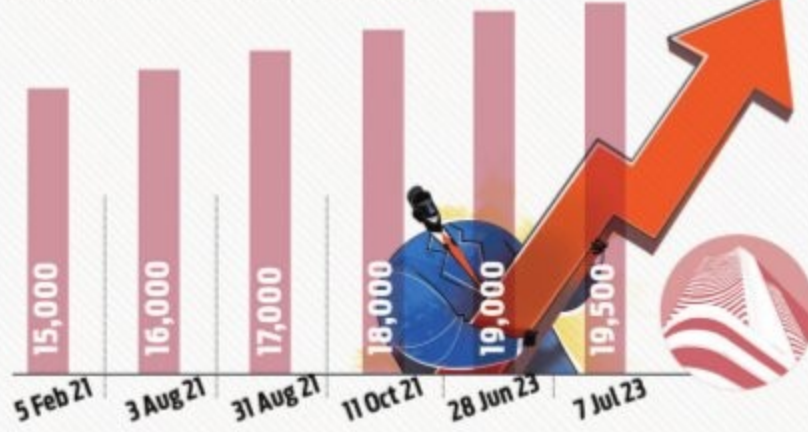
THE 50-share NSE benchmark index- Nifty 50 for the first time crossed the 19,500 level on Thursday and is now eyeing to breach the milestone of 20,000 as the ongoing bull run, defying valuation concerns, is showing no signs of corrections amid huge fund inflow from foreign portfolio investors (FPIs).

The Nifty50 touched an intraday high of 19,512 on Thursday before setting 98.80 points higher at 19,497.30, while the BSE Sensex advanced 339.60 points to reach 65,785.64. It has taken only 5 sessions for the Nifty50 to surge 19,000 to 19,500.

"If you look at the FPI flows, it gives you the confidence of achieving the 20,000 mark in this ongoing rally. We are also seeing support from the US markets. Further rally in the BFSI sector can drive up the markets," said Divam Sharma, Founder at Green Portfolio.

On the back of improving global cues and upbeat domestic macroeconomy numbers, Sensex and Nifty have surged over 13% each since March 28. FPIs have been very bullish on India and had pumped in over ₹90,000 crore in equities in May and June. FPIs were again net buyers on Thursday as they purchased shares worth ₹2,259

NIFTY PEAKS



crore, showed depository data.

Going forward, however, there might be some challenges for the domestic equity market. US equity tanked sharply on Thursday with Dow Jones dropping 500 points or 1.5% as rate hike fears accelerated again. This may impact the Indian market as well.

"Factors that can trigger the correction include a correction in US markets; geopolitical worries around trade war or around Russia; issues coming from upcoming parliament session in India, US Fed policy and subsequent commentary and any negative surprises in the Q1 results," said Sharma of Green Portfolio.

Deepak Jasani, Head of Retail Research, at HDFC Securities, said that Nifty has risen for 8 consecutive sessions, but now seems to be ripe for some sideways move or correction. "In every results season, we witness stock or sector rotation while the nifty stops trending majorly. Though 20,000 is not very far, a small correction ahead of it may be healthy for all."

On FPIs, Jasani noted that despite expectations of interest rate hikes in the developed economies that could affect global risk appetite, flows into India may not get impacted much due to the unique attraction of the Indian story.

FM asks PSBs to follow fair NPA recognition norm for growth

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

FINANCE minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Thursday asked heads of public sector banks (PSBs) to make sure fair and transparent recognition of bad loans and pursue robust risk management practices so as to maintain the momentum of growth and profitability.

PSBs earned a record aggregate net profit of about ₹1.05 lakh crore in FY23, nearly triple from net profits earned in 2013-14. In the review meeting with the top management of PSBs, discussions were held on the positive macro trends, improved business sentiments, "Twin balance sheet advantage" and performance of the state-run banks. All the major financial parameters viz., credit deployment, profitability, asset quality, capital adequacy etc. indicate that the performance of PSBs has significantly improved. They're adequately capitalised, resilient, and have sound financial health.

The asset quality of PSBs has improved with gross NPAs at 4.97% and net NPAs at 1.24% in March 2023, the ministry said in a release on Thursday. Sitharaman emphasised banks' adherence to the regulatory framework by focusing on risk management, and diversification of business base

Byju's proposes to form committee to advise CEO

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Bengaluru

EDTECH firm Byju's, which is currently grappling with multiple issues, is said to form Board Advisory Committee (BAC), which will provide guidance to the CEO.

The committee will also advise the CEO on governance structure that is suitable for the edtech firm.

At the company's extraordinary general meeting, Raveendran told shareholders that the committee will consist of independent directors. He also explained to them the company's progress with regard to the term loan B resolution, Aakash initial public offer (IPO) and the company's financial audit for FY22 and FY23.

Ajay Goel, newly appointed CFO of the company, informed shareholders that the FY22 audit will be completed by September and FY23 by December.

Many shareholders have attended the meeting and the top executive also discussed the Aakash IPO timeline. Goel also told shareholders that BDO has started an audit of the overall group including its subsidiaries. According to private mar-

ket intelligence platform PrivateCircle Research, Byju's promoters together hold a 21% stake in the edtech company. Individually, Byju Raveendran holds 15.90%, his wife Divya Gokulnath and brother Riju Raveendran have 3.32% and 1.99%, respectively. Recently, in a town hall speech, Raveendran told employees that it was a strategic decision to appoint

BDO as Byju's statutory auditors for the next five years. Deloitte announced its exit on June 22 due to the delay in the filing of FY22 financial results.

Three prominent board members of the edtech firm too resigned and Raveendran had assured the employees that the departures were unrelated to Deloitte's resignation. He told them that their exit was amicable and carried out with mutual understanding.

The CEO also told them that the TLB dispute is being resolved through constructive discussions and that the company is confident of achieving a positive outcome in the next few weeks without court intervention. It is said the firm will meet its shareholders again in next few weeks.



Tax dept keeps eye on IVF clinics, hospitals to detect evasion

DIPAK MONDAL @ New Delhi

IN order to increase the tax base in the country and identify non-filers, the tax department is keeping a close eye on high value expenditures and seeking information from hotels, banquets, IVF clinics and even medical colleges.

The income tax department in its annual Action Plan, which has been vetted by this newspaper, has identified hotels, banquets, luxury brand retailers, IVF clinics, hospitals, designer clothing stores, and medical colleges taking students on NRI quota as possible sources of high value transactions, which are not getting reported properly.

Therefore, the department has instructed its officials such sources be identified and a verification exercise be conducted by calling for information in a non-intrusive manner.

The department has set a target of adding 10% (of the filer base at the end of 2022-23) more

non-filers in tax net during current financial year. In 2022-23, 7.8 crore returns were filed as of March 31, 2023. The department had brought under tax net 8% non-filers in 2021-22, 10.2% in FY21 and 10.6% in 2019-20. A lower target has been fixed considering the high base effect.

The Annual Action plan further says that the Directorate of Systems will co-ordinate with principal chief commissioners of income tax of each region and provide data with regard to non-filers and stop filers by September 30, 2023.

The action plan has laid special focus on Tax Deducted at Source (TDS) to "augment considerable revenue as more areas have been included under this provision". The tax department is following TDS collection trends to identify possible cases of evasion. The department is keeping an eye on cases showing negative trend in TDS payments, habitual late filing or non-filing of TDS Statement, negative growth in TDS payment as against healthy growth in Advance tax payment, etc.

Infosys announces new subsidiary in Canada

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Bengaluru

INFOSYS PUBLIC SERVICES (IPS), a North America-based company of Infosys, on Thursday announced the opening of its new subsidiary in Canada.

Infosys Public Services, Canada (IPS Canada), is a 10,000 square feet digital centre, headquartered in Ottawa, Ontario with local offices in Mississauga ON, Calgary AB, and Burnaby BC.

IPS Canada accelerates digital transformation for public sector organisations across the country, including federal departments, provincial ministries, municipalities, and crown corporations, and provides access to top tier IT talent and innovative solutions to improve the delivery of government services to Canadians, the company said. This IPS Canada announcement is the latest development in a series of investments made by Infosys, which has expanded employee count to over 7,000 with a commitment to increase to 8,000 employees by 2024.



IPS Canada to employ 7K, to raise head count later

IPS Canada announcement is the latest development in a series of investments made by Infosys, which has expanded the employee count to over 7,000 with a commitment to increase to 8,000 employees by 2024.

ment to increase to 8,000 employees by 2024. IPS Canada will also work with local universities and technical colleges to recruit talent.

Its offices will enable it to tap into local talent across the country to support continued business growth in the region.

'High tomato prices inflate potatoes, onions rates'

SACHIN KUMAR @ Mumbai

IF you are upset with high tomato prices, then get ready to shell out more for the potatoes and onions.

A study by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) appointed group has found that rise in the prices of tomatoes gets transmitted to potatoes and onions. The findings of the study by Development Research Group (DRG) have come at a time when prices of tomatoes are hovering over 100 per kilogram across the country.

"There is horizontal volatility transmission across these three vegetables in both retail and wholesale markets. This transmission can be explained by the common driving factors leading to spillovers across the vegetable prices," said the study titled 'Anatomy of Price Volatility Transmission in Indian Vegetables Market'.

"These include common supply shocks, such as extreme weather shocks, hoarding, pest attacks, post-harvest losses and strikes/protests as well as an increase in input costs," it added.



Horizontal transmission refers to a situation when price volatility is transmitted across three vegetables. Some degree of substitutability and complementarity have also facilitated the transmission of prices, note the study which used the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) data for the analysis covering a period from January 3, 2011 to March 31, 2021.

"The empirical estimates indicate price volatility transmission from tomato to onion and potato, in both retail and wholesale markets," said the study. Findings of the study hold

implications for the management of overall inflation. The RBI has been trying hard to bring retail inflation to its target of 4 percent and has hiked repo rate by 250 basis points during the current rate hike cycle. Vegetable prices have historically tended to be highly volatile imparting volatility to the overall inflation. Findings of this study will help the RBI future trajectory of inflation. "When there is a shock in tomato prices, it is possible to estimate the magnitude of the influence on the prices of onion and potato," said the study.

TCS to train 25K engineers in GenAI

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Bengaluru

TATA CONSULTANCY SERVICES (TCS) on Thursday said it plans to get 25,000 employees trained and certified on Azure Open AI to help clients accelerate their adoption of this new technology.

It has deepened the partnership with Microsoft and the IT services company announced that it will significantly scale its Azure Open AI expertise and launch new Generative AI offerings for clients. "Generative

AI upends how enterprises can grow revenue, create new innovations, and get more work done—it's a game-changer that has the potential to do all of this faster, better, and more cost-effectively," said Siva Ganesan, Head, Microsoft Business Unit, TCS.

Meanwhile, in its latest report, Capgemini Research Institute said Generative AI tools for chatbots, product and service design, and customer experience are seen as most relevant for organisations.

Nearly all executives (96%) recognise that generative AI is a key topic in the boardroom, with the majority confirming that their leadership are strong advocates. About 70% of executives believe that generative AI will enable organisations to widen the scope of the roles of knowledge workers, the report said.

Companies also believe that the most relevant generative AI based platforms or tools for their industries are chatbots for automating customer service and improving knowledge management and designing, collecting, or summarising data.

IOCL to set up LNG stations in TN for transition to clean fuels

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Chennai

INDIAN OIL CORPORATION (IOCL) is helping Tamil Nadu transition to clean fuels by setting up six liquefied natural gas (LNG) dispensing stations in the state. This would mean that the state would now have additional green fuel in the form of LNG for commercial vehicles.

Addressing the first press meet of Indian Oil Corporation after Covid, V C Asokan, Executive Director and state head for Indian Oil (Tamil Nadu & Puducherry), on Thursday said the six LNG stations in Pon-



neri, Othakadai, Namakkal, Coimbatore, Koneripalli and Sriperumbudur would be providing LNG an alternative to diesel which will be useful for long haul vehicles.

Asokan said that LNG filled

LNG filled trucks can travel 600 km to 800 km

This would mean that the state would now have additional green fuel in the form of LNG for commercial vehicles. V C Asokan, Executive Director and state head for IOCL, said LNG filled trucks could travel up to 600 km to 800 km.

trucks could travel up to 600km to 800km. He said the dispensing station in Sriperumbudur is functioning on a pilot basis. The six stations are likely to be inaugurated in the next few months. Talks are on with

Ashok Leyland, Dalmia Cement and other entities to use the fuel.

Asokan also said that Indian Oil Corporation has invested ₹54,000 crore in projects across Tamil Nadu, one of the largest in the country. These projects are likely to be completed in the next four to five years.

These include a nine million metric tonne per annum grassroots refinery worth ₹35,580 crore in Nagapattinam, and a gas pipeline from Ennore to Thoothukudi carrying Liquefied Natural Gas, Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) and Piped Natural Gas (PNG) among oth-

ers. The pipeline, considered to be the lifeline of the state, will transport five million metric tonnes per annum gas from LNG storage and regasification terminal at Ennore and supply it to industries across the state.

The other projects include world's second largest integrated lube complex at Amulvoiyal village in Chennai, at a cost of ₹1,398 crore and a new oil terminal at Vallur at a cost of ₹724 crore which is likely to be completed in December next year. He also said the Indian Oil corporation's venture into green hydrogen is at a conceptual stage.

Senco IPO subscribed 73 times; QIB bids 181 times, retail part booked 15 times

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

THE much anticipated Senco Gold's initial public offering (IPO) was subscribed more than 73 times on Thursday, the last day of the issue.

The issue saw maximum interest from qualified institutional buyers (QIBs), who barely made any bids till the second day even as Senco had allocated around 50% of its offer to QIBs. On the last day of the bidding, QIB's portion was subscribed by a whopping 181 times.

About 35% of the issue which was available to retail investors was subscribed 15 times while the remaining 15% of the issue allocated to non-institutional bidders was subscribed 65 times. The jewellery retailer's shares were trading at over 35% premium in the grey market over the upper end of the price band, indicating a positive listing gain.

Senco, which has a strong presence in Eastern India, has fixed IPO price band at ₹301 to ₹317 per equity share. The company is looking to raise ₹405 crore from the issue of which ₹121.50 crore has already been raised from 21 anchor investors. The IPO comprises a fresh



issuance of shares worth Rs 270 crore and an offer-for-sale (OFS) of equity shares worth Rs 135 crore by investor SAIF Partners India IV. Most analysts have recommended subscribing to the issues owing to the reasonable valuation. At the upper price band of ₹317, Senco Gold is available at a P/E of 15.5x (FY23), lower than industry peers' valuations.

"Improving economic growth, rising urbanisation, increasing disposable income levels, and mandatory hallmarking are positive for the organised players. A strong brand name and a legacy of over five decades, strong company-operated showrooms, and an established asset-light 'franchise' model are expected to benefit Senco Gold. Therefore, we assign a 'Subscribe' rating for the issue," said analysts at Geogit Financial Services.



Former Germany winger Bastian Schweinsteiger says Pep Guardiola shares blame for the national team's decline, telling British radio station Talksport that Germany lost its values because of Pep. "When Pep Guardiola joined Bayern Munich, when he came to the country, everyone believed we have to play this kind of football, like short passes and everything. We were kind of losing our values."

OCA extension not enough for IOA

Asian body gives time till July 23 to send wrestling final list for Hangzhou Games, Usha writes for Aug 5 deadline

INDRANEEL DAS @Chennai

THE Indian Olympic Association's request to extend the deadline for sending names of the wrestling team has been granted, but only partially. The six protesting wrestlers had requested the IOA to give them until August first week to get ready for selection trials to pick the wrestling team for the Asian Games.

However, it is learnt that the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) has agreed to give an extension of about eight days — until July 23 — to send names of wrestlers. It remains to be seen how most of the protesting wrestlers, who have gone abroad for training would compete in trials or whether the IOA would request for further extension and enable the wrestlers to come back in time for trials. The last date for sending names for Asian Games this time is July 15.

According to a top IOA official, though the OCA has given July 23 as the deadline, they would want the date to be extended further. It is understood that IOA president PT Usha has sent a request to extend the deadline until August 5 at least. "We have sought further extension up to August 5 for the interest of the nation," said Usha. "Wrestling is a sport in which India have been doing well at the Asian Games and for the betterment of our wrestlers we should get the extension. It's a sport in which we are expecting four-five medals including gold medals."

This apparently has caused problems for the ad hoc panel which has not announced the dates for trials till date. All wrestlers are in a fix and have



IOA president PT Usha

not been able to train without a target.

Out of the six protesting wrestlers, Olympic medalist Bajrang Punia has gone to Issyk-Kul, Kyrgyzstan for 36 days and has to get into full fitness before July 23. Bajrang is accompanied by Jitender Kinha, who is one among the six protesting wrestlers. Vinesh Phogat, who led the protest against the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI), was planning to go to Hungary but has yet not left because of visa issues. Sangeeta Phogat, also a part of the protest, was supposed to accompany her. Besides, Sakshi Malik and her husband Satyawart Kadian, the other two protesting wrestlers, have gone to the US.

The OCA usually doesn't give an extension in deadlines because it involves some 45 nations and around 39 disciplines. They are of the view that if a concession is given to one, then they have to give it to others.

National coaches, ad hoc panel tussle over one-bout trials; no dates as yet

FIROZ MIRZA @Chennai

AS of now the last date to send final wrestling entries for the Asian Games is July 23 but somehow the ad-hoc committee constituted by the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) to run the day-to-day affairs of the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) seems in no hurry to hold trials.

Despite a little over a fortnight remaining to send the final entries according to new deadline, the ad-hoc panel in its meeting on Thursday fixed the criteria but not the date of the trials to select the team. The meeting was attended by Bhupender Singh Bajwa, ad-hoc panel member, two wrestling experts — Gian Singh and Ashok Garg apart from two national coaches Har Gobind Singh and Jagminder Singh. Coaches and players are not amused.

Mahabir Prasad, Dronacharya awardee and former wrestling chief coach felt that an administrator from wushu might not understand the nuances of wrestling. One of the two members actively involved in WFI functioning is Wushu Association of India chief Bajwa, who is also an IOA executive council member. "The wrestlers while protesting said their sole aim is to protect the sport. Now that goal too is getting defeated as India may lose out on the chance to send wrestlers for the Asian Games if such uncertainty continues. It is not fair for other wrestlers who are waiting for trial dates while at the same time giving protesting wrestlers time to get fit and bout ready. At least



Mahabir Prasad

date should be finalised. Now as the date for sending final entries is extended to July 23, the ad-hoc panel should announce the date of trials as wrestlers need time to change their schedule accordingly," Prasad told this daily.

One-bout trials objections

One of the attendees told this daily that a few options were discussed in the meeting depending on the Olympic Council of Asia's reply to the IOA's request for an extension of the last date for submitting the final entries. "If the OCA gives us time till August first week then only one trial will be held. But if it doesn't give enough time then two trials can be organised. One can be held in July with a rider that winners in a few weight categories have to compete against protesting wrestlers for a place in the team in August. This means one-bout trials for a few wrestlers like Bajrang Punia and Vinesh Phogat. However, if other wrestlers do not agree then two finalists of the first trials and

winners between the two bronze medalists can be fielded for the second trial against the protesting wrestler. In that way, each wrestler will have three bouts in the second trial and those who emerge winners can go to the Asiad," said Gian. He also suggested that two names can be sent in select weight categories if the extension is not given till August first week.

However, the national coaches registered a strong protest against the idea of one-bout trials. "If that happens then it will be unfair to other wrestlers. We objected to it," said one of the coaches. Even Prasad was against it and claimed two names cannot be sent for final entries unless there are exceptional circumstances. "A wrestler in the final list can only be replaced if there is an extraordinary situation. The medical ground is one such situation but for that, you have to submit the medical certificate of the wrestler who is being replaced. More importantly, why that wrestler would agree to be replaced?" asked Prasad.

Besides, going by the rule only those wrestlers could be named as replacements whose names are included in the long list. Sources said the names of the six protesting wrestlers were included in the long list.

While it is learnt that the panel has decided to wait for a few days before finalising the dates of the trials, no official confirmation in this regard could be obtained as Bajwa remained incommunicado.

Full story: newindianexpress.com



Britain's Liam Broady reacts after beating Norway's Casper Ruud | AP

Ruud shock! World No 4 knocked out by wildcard

AGENCIES @London



WIMBLEDON TRIVIA
Royal Box — Contains 80 dark green Lloyd Loom wicker chairs. The Queen attended in 1957, 1962, 1977, 2010.

WORLD NO 4 Casper Ruud crashed out in the second round of Wimbledon on Thursday at the hands of British wildcard Liam Broady.

Broady held his nerve when trailing two sets to one against the French Open finalist, rallying to win the Centre Court clash 6-4, 3-6, 4-6, 6-3, 6-0.

Norway's Ruud, who has been runner-up at Roland Garros in the past two years, was also the beaten finalist at the US Open last year.

The 24-year-old has never gone beyond the second round at the All England Club.

Meanwhile, Russian 16-year-old Mirra Andreeva reached the third round of a Grand Slam for a second successive time at Wimbledon.

Andreeva was leading Czech 10th seed Barbora Krejickova 6-3, 4-0 when the former French Open champion retired with an injury.

Defending champion Elena Rybakina outlasted injured French veteran Alize Cornet 6-2, 7-6 (2) to reach the third round despite an error-strewn display. The Kazakh third seed broke Cornet at her first opportunity in the Centre Court clash and repeated the feat to win the set.

SELECT RESULTS: Men: 1st rd:
A Zverev (GER x19) bt G Brouwer (NED) 6-4, 7-6 (4), 7-6 (5); Alex De Minaur (AUS x15) bt Kimmer Coppejans (BEL) 6-7 (5), 6-3, 6-7, 7-6 (2). **2nd rd:** D Shapovalov (CAN x26) bt G Barrere (FRA) 6-3, 6-4, 7-6 (7); A Bublik (KAZ x23) bt JJ Wolf (USA) 6-3, 7-6 (5), 6-0; L Musetti (ITA x14) bt J Munar (ESP) 6-4, 6-3, 6-1; Hubert Hurkacz (POL x17) bt Jan Choinski (GBR) 6-4, 6-4, 7-6 (3).

Women: 1st rd: J Niemeier (GER) bt K Muchova (CZE x16) 6-4, 5-7, 6-1. **2nd rd:** E Rybakina (KAZ x3) bt A Cornet (FRA) 6-2, 7-6 (2); E Svitolina (UKR) bt E Mertens (BEL x28) 6-1, 1-6, 6-1; M Andreeva bt B Krejickova (CZE x10) 6-3, 4-0 - retired.

Returning Marsh & Wood steal show on opening day

AGENCIES @Leeds (UK)

MITCHELL Marsh's run-a-ball 118 was the cornerstone of Australia's 263 all out on the first day of the third Ashes Test at Headingley on Thursday after the tourists collapsed either side of his blistering century.

England fast bowler Mark Wood took 5-34 as the hosts backed up captain Ben Stokes' decision to send Australia into bat on a green-tinged pitch after winning the toss.

Australia skipper Pat Cummins then reduced England to 22-2 before all-rounder Marsh, playing his first Test in nearly four years, had Zak Crawley (33) well caught at first slip by David Warner in the latest example of the tourists' superior fielding.

At stumps, England were 68-3 — a deficit of 195 runs — with Joe Root 19 not out and Jonny Bairstow one not out on their Yorkshire home ground.

But it was also another day of missed opportunities for England as Root dropped a regulation first-slip catch off Chris Woakes when Marsh had made just 12.

Australia would have been 98-5 but for Root's error and it



Australia's Mitchell Marsh celebrates after reaching century on Thursday | AFP

was one England could ill-afford at 2-0 down in the five-match series. Marsh made England pay with a superb hundred while sharing a stand of 155 with Travis Head, whose 39 was the second highest score of the innings.

But from 240-4, Australia lost their last six wickets for 23 runs as Durham quick Wood, in his first Test since playing away to Pakistan in December, ripped through the tail.

His wickets were badly needed by England, a bowler down

after Ollie Robinson limped off shortly before tea with a back spasm. "It is an amazing day," Wood told Sky Sports. "It was a great feeling to take five wickets. It was the first time in front of my mum and dad so I'm delighted."

He added: "We felt a couple of wickets away, but Mitch Marsh played fantastically well and was difficult to bowl at."

Brief scores: Australia 263 (Marsh 118, Head 39; Wood 5/34; Woakes 3/73, Broad 2/58) vs England 68/3 (Crawley 33, Root 19 batting; Cummins 2/28).

HEROIC DISPLAY

De Leede powers Dutch to ODI WC

AGENCIES @Bulawayo

AN inspirational Netherlands scripted an incredible come-from-behind fairytale, riding on all-rounder Bas de Leede's individual brilliance as they beat Scotland by four wickets to join Sri Lanka as the second qualifying team for the ICC World Cup in India, starting October 5. Needing 278 inside 44 overs to qualify, De Leede's power-packed 123 off 92 balls with help of seven fours and five sixes and his 113-run sixth-wicket stand in just 11.3 overs with Saqib Zulfiqar (33 not out) helped Netherlands to qualify in just 42.5 overs.

This is the fifth time that the Netherlands have qualified for the 50-over global event, having played in the 1996, 2003, 2007 and 2011 editions.

"Little bit lost for words. I thought what Bas de Leede and Saqib Zulfiqar did in the last 10 overs was unbelievable to watch," an emotional Netherlands skipper Scott Edwards said after the match.

Brief Scores: Scotland 277/9 in 50 ovs (McMullen 106, Berrington 64; De Leede 5/52) lost to Netherlands 278/6 in 42.5 ovs (De Leede 123, Vikramjit 40).

Pujara, Surya fifties put West on top

AGENCIES @Alur

CHETESHWAR Pujara (*in pic*) looked rock-solid while Suryakumar Yadav played his natural attacking game as their contrasting half-centuries put West Zone in complete control after left-arm medium pacer Arzan Nagwaswalla's five-wicket haul floored Central Zone on the second day of the Duleep Trophy semifinal here on Thursday.

At stumps, West Zone reached 149/3 in their second essay, extending their overall lead to 241. This was after Shivam Mavi (6/44) quickly wrapped up the West Zone first innings for 220, for the addition of just four runs to their over-

night score. But the joy turned out to be a short-lived one as Nagwaswalla took 5/74 in 14.3 overs to decimate Central Zone for 128 in just 31.3 overs.

Save Dhruv Jurel (46) and his UP teammate Rinku Singh (48), none of the other Central batters could even cross a personal score of 15 and seven of them were dismissed before reaching double digits.

Buoyed by a 92-run first innings lead, West batters gave a far better account of themselves as Pujara remained unbeaten on 50 off 103 balls with five boundaries.

However, Suryakumar' 52 off 58 balls with eight fours and a six might have given the

decisive advantage to West. The two India internationals added 95 runs in just over 24 overs.

Mayank scores half-century

BENGALURU: After their batsmen's limp outing, North Zone bowlers produced a gritty effort to bowl out South Zone for 195 to give their team a slender advantage on the second day. At close, North were 51 for 2 in their second innings for a lead of 54 runs. They would want to build on this thin platform substantially on Day 3.

Brief Scores: West Zone 220 in 92.5 ovs (Shivam Mavi 6/44) & 149/3 in 39 ovs (Pujara 50 batting, Surya 52) vs Central Zone: 128 in 31.3 ovs (Rinku 48, Jurel 46; Nagwaswalla 5/74). North Zone 198 & 51/2 in 11 ovs vs South Zone 195 (Mayank 76; Jayant 3/38, Vaibhav 3/57).

EXPRESS READ

Anand starts well in Grand Chess Tour

ZAGREB: Indian Grandmaster Viswanathan Anand shot into the lead at the end of three rounds of the rapid segment in the third leg of the 2023 Grand Chess Tour after registering two victories here. Anand defeated GMs Richard Rapport and Constantin Lupulescu (both of Romania) on day one after starting with a draw against young Alireza Firouzja.

Sindhu, Lakshya enter Canada Open Rd 2

CALGARY: PV Sindhu and Lakshya Sen entered the pre-quarterfinals of the Canada Open. While Sindhu eased into the next round with an easy 21-16, 21-9 win over Canada's Talia NG in her women's singles opening match on Wednesday night, Sen had to dig deep to stun second seed Kunlavut Vitidsarn of Thailand 21-18, 21-15 in the men's singles.

Chennaiyin FC sign Sachu and Prateek

CHENNAI: Chennaiyin FC, on Thursday, roped in talented goalkeeper Prateek Kumar Singh and defender Sachu Siby to bolster the team's defence ahead of the upcoming season. This will be the first outing in the Indian Super League (ISL) for both the youngsters who have shown a lot of promise and potential in the domestic circuit.

Kohli's issues outside off continue ahead of WI Test

AGENCIES @Bridgetown (Barbados)

VIRAT KOHLI'S struggles outside the off-stump continued as he was once again snapped behind the stumps during an intra-squad practice game while Yashasvi Jaiswal made strong claims for a coveted Test cap ahead of the series opener against the West Indies.

Jaiswal's Test debut is a matter of time but what could be a subject of discussion is his usual batting slot which is opening or one down, a position that the seasoned Cheteshwar Pujara was forced to vacate after nearly three

years of non-performance. The Indian team included some local club cricketers along with its own 16 players for the two-day training-cum-practice game. The first Test begins on July 12. Kohli, whose problems against deliveries on the corridor of uncertainty, is well documented, saw veteran left-arm seamer Jaydev Unadkat exploit it early on his spell.

The left-armer's angle is an awkward one and Unadkat bowled one outside the off-stump, and Kohli, without any distinct footwork, fished at it to be caught by a local fielder stationed at first slip.

KALYANI MANGALE @Chennai

AFTER a successful outing at the Senior National Aquatic Championship in Hyderabad, swimmer Aryan Nehra has his eyes set on the Asian Games and World Championships. The 19-year-old broke four records and bagged the best swimmer award in the men's category.

Nehra booked an Asian Games spot in the men's 800m freestyle and 1500m freestyle events at the TYR Pro Swim Series 2023 in April. With the event in Hangzhou two months away, he is looking forward to the challenge. "The real focus

is at the Asian Games. I think that is where I am hopeful to make it to the finals. And after that try and sneak onto that podium," Nehra told this daily.

Before heading to the quadrennial event, Nehra will represent India at the World Championship in Japan starting on July 14. "The goal is to swim my personal best in the World event. (It will be) practice race for me at that level, in those arenas and under that pressure. It will help me get ready for the Asiad," he added.

Along with the 800m and 1500m events in Hyderabad, Nehra broke the national



Aryan Nehra

record in the 400m medley and 400m freestyle, helping him bag four gold medals — most by any player in this edition.

Nehra is training with the Florida Gators swimming team of the University of Florida in the USA when he is not breaking records in the nationals. "The facilities and resources an athlete need to perform have been there for a long time (in the USA). Now those facilities are being made available even here in the country. It is providing many opportunities to many people closer to home," Nehra insisted.

Bangalore-based Inspire Insti-

tute of Sport has supported Nehra, and Rushdee Warley, CEO of IIS, believes swimming has the potential to bring more Olympics medals for India in the near future. "If India has to be competitive at the Olympics, we have to be competitive in swimming. And in order to do that, we have to grow the base of swimming," Warley said.

"Aryan has done fantastically well this week. He has been a role model for many young kids out there. It's very important that we start developing those young kids. We are committed to that," Warley concluded.

